



Veronica lanceolata

Common Name(s):

Parahebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (Coromandel Peninsula, Waikato (Pirongia, Tawarau, Herangi Range, King Country); Taranaki (Mt Messenger, Waitara River to Oakura River and Kaitake Range); Main Divide from East Cape to Wellington; Volcanic Plateau; Manawatu and Wanganui districts) South Island (North-West Nelson (Wakamarama Range)

Habitat:

Coastal to montane. Usually rheophytic, growing within the floodline of streams and rivers or within river gorges. Also colonising damp seepages on silt and sandstone cliffs, and on basalt and limestone bluffs

Features*:

Subshrub to 450 mm tall. Old stems brown, red-brown or grey. Branches prostrate to erect. Branchlets brown or red-brown. Vegetative internodes (5-)8-20(-70) mm long. Stems bifariously or uniformly eglandular pubescent rarely glabrous. Leaves erectopate or spreading or recurved. Lamina linear, lanceolate, oblanceolate, ovate, obovate, oblong, elliptic, orbicular deltoid or rhomboid, 5.0-100.0 × 1.5-25.0 mm. Upper surface of leaves glossy or dull, green, bronze-green, light green or dark green, under surface dull, green, bronze green, pale green or pinkish. Leaf hairs eglandular-glandular, sparse, scattered or absent, along midrib above. Apex acute, subacute or acuminate. Base cuneate, subcordate or cordate. Margin glabrous, serrate (teeth or lobes in 1-15 pairs). Petiole 1-6 mm long. Inflorescence racemose, 4-30-flowered, unbranched, 30-350 mm long at fruiting. Indumentum of peduncle, rachis, and pedicels absent to very dense. Peduncle 15-120 mm long. Rachis 15-140 mm long, glabrous, eglandular-pubescent or glandular-pubescent. Bracts alternate, linear, lanceolate, elliptic, ovate or narrowly deltoid, obtuse, subacute, acute or acuminate, margins entire. Pedicels 5-25 mm long, glabrous, eglandular-pubescent or glandular-pubescent. Flowers white at anthesis. Nectar guides evident, present on posterior and lateral corolla lobes. Colour ring and nectar guides magenta. Corolla throat yellow. Calyx 4-lobed, 2-4 mm long, linear, lanceolate, elliptic, ovate, obovate, oblong, acuminate to obtuse, margins entire, surfaces either glabrous or eglandular, glandular, mixed eglandular-glandular on margins undersides surface. Corolla 8-15 mm diameter; tube 0.5-1.5 × 1 mm, hairy inside, hairs short or papillate. Corolla lobes glabrous. Stamen filaments white, 2-4 mm long. Anthers pink or magenta, 0.8-1.5 mm long. Nectarial disc ciliolate. Ovary ellipsoid, subacute or obtuse, glabrous, 0.8-1.0 mm long. Style 3.5-7.0 mm long. Capsules weakly flattened, emarginate, 2.5-4.5 × 2.5-4.0 mm, 2.5-3.5 mm thick, glabrous. Septicidal split of capsule extending to base, loculicidal split of capsule extending 1/3-1/2-way to base. Seeds obovoid or discoid, straw-yellow or pale brown or brown, 0.5-1.1 × 0.5-0.9 mm

Flowering:

September - April

Fruiting:

November - August

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet by P.J. de Lange (5 October 2006). Description adapted from Garnock-Jones and Lloyd (2003).

References and further reading:

Garnock-Jones, P.J.; Lloyd, D.G. 2003: A taxonomic revision of *Parahebe* (Plantaginaceae) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 181-232

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1091



Caption: Mt Holdsworth February
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: Waiohine Gorge, Tararua Forest Park. Dec 2007.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe