



Veronica linifolia

Common Name(s):

Parahebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: South Island (North-Western Nelson to the Rangitata River, on both sides of the main divide).

Habitat:

Montane to subalpine. Inhabiting cliffs, rock outcrops, braided rivers (on river gravel), and river banks.

Features*:

Low subshrub up to 300 mm tall. Stems brown. Branches decumbent to ascending. Branchlets brown or green. Vegetative internodes 1-10 mm long. Stem bifariously eglandular-pubescent only at distal end of internodes. Leaves erect to reflexed. Lamina linear to oblong (narrowly), 10.0-30.0 × 1.5-3.5 mm. Upper surface of leaves glossy, green; lower surface of leaves dull, pale green. Leaf hairs sparse to scattered, along margins (especially at base), eglandular. Apex rounded. Base cuneate. Margin entire, ciliate (especially at base). Petiole 1.5-4.0 mm long. Inflorescence racemose, 1-8-flowered, unbranched, 30-70 mm long at fruiting; peduncle, rachis, and pedicels glabrous. Peduncle 0.5-40 mm long. Rachis 4-42 mm long. Bracts alternate (basal pair sometimes subopposite), linear to narrowly deltoid, obtuse, glabrous or eglandular ciliate near base, margins entire. Pedicels 8-40 mm long, glabrous. Flowers white, sometimes blue, rarely pink at anthesis, corolla throat yellow. Nectar guides evident present on posterior and lateral corolla lobes, colour ring and nectar guides magenta or purple (NW Nelson). Calyx 4-lobed, 4-7 mm long, glabrous or sparsely eglandular hairy on margins; lobes glabrous, lanceolate, deltoid, elliptic or obovate, acute to subacute (acuminate by infolding near apex), entire. Corolla 12-17 mm diameter, tube 0.5-1.5 × 1.0-1.5 mm, hairy inside, hairs long. Stamen filaments white, 4-8 mm long, narrowed at base. Anthers rarely white or pink or magenta, 1.5-2.2 mm long. Nectarial disc ciliolate. Ovary ellipsoid, emarginate, glabrous or apex eglandular hairy, 1.0-1.7 mm long. Style 4-9 mm long. Capsules weakly flattened, didymous, 3.0-4.5 × 3.5-4.5 mm, usually glabrous. Septicidal split of capsule extending to base, loculicidal split extending 1/3-1/2-way to base. Seeds ellipsoid, obovoid, discoid, pale brown, dark brown or brown, 0.7-1.3 × 0.5-0.9 mm

Flowering:

October - February

Fruiting:

November - May

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=1094



Caption: In cultivation ex Lake Daniells. May 2011.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Caption: Haystack ascent

Photographer: Melissa Hutchison