Veronica planopetiolata

Common Name(s):

Parahebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: South Island (South Westland, West Otago (Mt Aspiring and Westland National Parks along the main divide); Mt Tyndall; Symmetry Peaks, Eyre Mountains; Fiordland (Mt McPherson; Wapiti Lake))

Habitat:

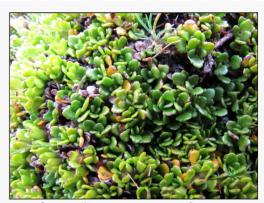
Subalpine to alpine. Inhabiting scree, moraine, fellfield and on cliff faces.

Features*:

Subshrub, loose cushion or mat-forming subshrub to 50 mm tall. Stems brown. Branches prostrate. Branchlets red-brown. Vegetative internodes 1-7 mm long. Stems glabrous or sparsely bifariously eglandular-pubescent. Leaves erecto-patent to spreading. Glabrous except for finely ciliate petioles. Lamina oblanceolate, oblong, elliptic, rhomboid, 2-10 × 1-6 mm. Upper surface of leaves glossy, green or dark green, lower surface dull, green, pale green or purple. Leaf hairs absent. Apex obtuse to rounded. Base cuneate. Margin entire or shallowly crenate, teeth or lobes in 0-3 pairs. Petiole 1-5 mm long. Inflorescence 1(-2)-flowered, 5-8 mm long at fruiting. Peduncle, rachis, and pedicels glabrous. Peduncle 1-2 mm long, glabrous. Bracts paired and



Caption: Harris Mts **Photographer:** John Barkla



Caption: Minaret Burn, March **Photographer:** John Barkla

opposite, spathulate to obovate, obtuse or subacute, glabrous or basally eglandular ciliate. Bract margins entire. Pedicels 1-7 mm long, glabrous. Flowers: Corolla, tube and throat white, pink or violet at anthesis. Nectar guides absent. Calyx 4(-5)-lobed, 3.5-7.0 mm long, glabrous; lobes oblanceolate, obovate or spathulate, obtuse, margins entire, rarely toothed, glabrous. Corolla 7–9 mm diameter, tube 2.0-4.0 \times 1.0-1.5 mm wide, lobes glabrous. Stamen filaments white, 1.5-2.5 mm long, not narrowed at base. Anthers magenta, 1 mm long. Nectarial disc minutely ciliolate. Ovary ovoid or fusiform, acute or subacute, glabrous, 1 mm long. Style 2.5-3.5 mm long. Capsules strongly flattened, emarginate or didymous, 3.0-4.0 \times 4.0-4.5 mm, glabrous. Septicidal split of capsule extending to base, loculicidal split extending 1/4-1/2-way to base. Seeds ellipsoid or obovoid, pale brown, 0.8-1.0 \times 0.5-0.6 mm.

Flowering: Fruiting:

November - January December - April

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=1097