



## *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 opposite, spatulate 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 spatulate, obtuse, margins entire, rarely toothed, glabrous. Corolla 7-9 mm diameter, tube 2.0-4.0 × 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 ciliate. 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 × 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 × 0.5-0.6 mm.

### Flowering:

November - January

### Fruiting:

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](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1097)



**Caption:** Harris Mts

**Photographer:** John Barkla



**Caption:** Minaret Burn, March

**Photographer:** John Barkla