



Pimelea prostrata subsp. *prostrata*

Common Name(s):

pinatoro, New Zealand daphne, Strathmore weed

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island: South Auckland, Taranaki, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, eastern Wairarapa, and near Wellington. South Island: Marlborough, Nelson, Westland, Canterbury, Otago, Southland

Habitat:

Coastal to montane. In open sites, such as coastal gravel, sand dunes, and mudstone cliffs; on ultramafic rock, mudstone, sandstone, marble, limestone, gravel river floodplains; vegetated places, in open scrub, low grassland, Schoenus marsh, Sphagnum bog, around tarn margins.

Features*:

A small shrub; stems prostrate, often thin and flexible, creeping on open areas or in low vegetation, pendent on banks, cliffs, up to 300 mm long. Stems may be partially buried on sandy substrates; adventitious roots may develop on these, or on stems in moist habitats. Branching sympodial and lateral. Branchlets uniformly yellowish-brown to brown, usually smooth but sometimes muricate, glabrous except in leaf axils and on receptacles, or sparsely to moderately clad in short, silky hair. Internodes 1–4 mm long. Older stems grey-brown to dark grey. Node buttresses light to medium brown, occupying part or all of the internode; occasionally prominent on leafless branches. Leaves close (exposed or drier sites) or distant (shaded sites), patent, on short red petioles. Lamina glaucous, often red-margined, usually 3–6 × 1.5–4 mm, thin, elliptic to broad-elliptic, flat, tip obtuse. Inflorescences 5–8-flowered, terminal on branchlets. Involucral bracts to 5.6 × 4.2 mm. Flowers relatively sparsely hairy outside, inside hairless, on very short pedicels (0.2 mm). Female tube 2.5 mm long, ovary portion red, 2 mm; calyx lobes 1.2 × 1.2 mm; h tube 4.8 mm long, ovary portion 2 mm; calyx lobes 2 × 1.5 mm. Ovary moderately hairy at summit. Fruits broad ovoid to globose, fleshy, white, opaque 4.2 × 2.8 mm. Seeds narrow-ovoid 2.5 × 1.5 mm, crest very thin.

Flowering:

September - May

Fruiting:

October - July

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Description from: Burrows (2008).

References and further reading:

Burrows, C.J. 2009: Genus *Pimelea* (Thymelaeaceae) in New Zealand 2. The endemic *Pimelea prostrata* and *Pimelea urvilliana* species complexes. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 47: 163–229

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1125



Caption: *Pimelea prostrata*
Photographer: John Barkla



Caption: Baring Head
Photographer: John Sawyer