



Raoulia mammillaris

Common Name(s):

Vegetable sheep

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island - mostly east of the main divide and centred on Canterbury

Habitat:

Subalpine to alpine. On rocks, talus and scree and sparsely vegetated fellfield.

Features*:

Stock stout, woody; branches densely compacted, woody at base, forming hard rounded cushions up to 500 mm diameter. Leaves densely imbricate, c. 3-4 × 1 mm, obovate-spathulate, rounded at apex; basal portion glabrous on ventral surface, clad in floccose hairs on dorsal surface below apex; apical portion clad on both surfaces in straight ascending hairs but little exceeding lamina-apex. Capitula up to 6.5 mm diameter, inner series of involucrel bracts c.4 mm long, narrow-oblong, margins scarious; tips obtuse, white, radiating. Florets 10-12. Achenes up to 1.25 mm long, clad in long silky hairs; pappus-hairs c.3 mm long, rigid

Flowering:

November - January

Fruiting:

December - April

Threats:

Not Threatened

***Attribution:**

Description adapted from Allan (1961)

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I, Government Printer, Wellington.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1253



Caption: Craigieburn Skifield, Canterbury

Photographer: Jesse Bythell



Caption: Foggy Peak, Torlesse range, January

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth