



Veronica lavaudiana

Common Name(s):

Banks Peninsula sun hebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Declining

Distribution:

Endemic. Known only from Banks Peninsula.

Habitat:

A species of open rock outcrops and cliff faces, often growing in the most exposed sunny habitats.

Features*:

Spreading, low shrub 100-300 mm tall. Branches prostrate, trailing, branchlets brown or grey. Leaves spreading to recurved, (7-)12-25(-30) x (6-)8-17 mm, dark green, somewhat glaucous, obovate to orbicular, leathery, margins with 3-10 crenations. Petiole narrowly winged, 2-5(-8) mm. Inflorescence 20-40 mm long, (50-)100-150-flowered Calyx 4-5 mm, lobes 5, lanceolate to deltoid, acuminate, glandular ciliate. Corolla 11-13 mm, pink at anthesis, white after pollination, throat white or pink, corolla tube 1.5-2 mm long, 1.7-2 mm wide, slightly expanded, Lateral corolla lobes elliptic, subacute, suberect to spreading, posterior corolla lobe longer than tube, rhomboid, subacute, erect. Stamen filaments white, inserted at base of corolla tube, 2.5 mm long. Anthers yellow. Seeds pale brown, (1.7-)2-2.5 x 0.7-1 mm. Chromosome Number $2n = 42$

Flowering:

October to November (-January)

Fruiting:

January (-March)

Threats:

Threatened by gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) with overshadowed plants and other weeds which are invading the open rock outcrop habitat this species requires.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2004). Description based on Garnock-Jones (1993)

References and further reading:

Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1993: *Heliohebe* (Scrophulariaceae Veroniceae), a new genus segregated from *Hebe*. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 31: 323-339.

Garnock-Jones, P.J.; Albach, D.; Briggs, B.G. 2007: Botanical names in Southern Hemisphere *Veronica* (Plantaginaceae): sect. *Detzneria*, ect. *Hebe*, and sect. *Labiatoidea*. *Taxon* 56: 571-582

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=127



Caption: Banks Peninsula

Photographer: Melissa Hutchison



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