



Wahlenbergia violacea

Common Name(s):

Violet Harebell

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands. Also Norfolk Island.

Habitat:

Rarely coastal, mostly inland and lowland in scrub or bracken-clothed hills, or thin pasture, usually on clay; rural roadsides, burnt or eroded or disturbed places, often invasive in gardens.

Features*:

Radicant perennial herb. Stems 100-500 mm tall, slender, erect or decumbent. Leaves oblanceolate to lanceolate to linear, shallowly denticulate to subentire, dark green, the lowermost 2-5 pairs opposite in seedlings and young shoots. Pedicels slender, 30-150 mm long. Flowers self-fertile, glabrous, 5-18 mm diameter, 2-10 mm long, bright blue-violet, paler outside. Corolla shortly campanulate, bowl-shaped, often with tube distinctly angled at the sinus; tube 1.5 × 3.0 mm to 3 × 4 mm, 1/4 to 1/3 length of corolla; corolla lobes ovate, acute, overlapping or touching in open flower, 3 × 2 mm to 7 × 4 mm. Style capitate, thickened, and blue at apex. Stigmas large, often white and fluffy. Calyx lobes glabrous 1.5 × 0.7 mm to 4 × 1 mm narrowly triangular, equal in length to corolla lobe. Capsule glabrous obconic, with protruding apical valves. Bud at anther dehiscence tinted blue. Seeds 0.5 mm long.

Flowering:

November - April

Fruiting:

December - April

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange 12 June 2007. Description adapted from Petterson (1997).

References and further reading:

Petterson, J.A. 1997: Revision of the genus *Wahlenbergia* (Campanulaceae) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 35: 9-54.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1367



Caption: Coromandel, February

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: Rimutaka Rail Trail, Mar 2007.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe