



## *Aciphylla crenulata*

### Common Name(s):

None known

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. South Island, close to and west of Main divide

### Habitat:

Higher rainfall snow tussock-herbfield. 900 - 1700 m a.s.l.

### Features\*:

Slender herb forming lax tufts to 60 cm tall in flower. Rosettes single or several. Leaves few, flexible, rather flaccid, 1-pinnate, to 15 cm long x 5 mm wide; sheath broad, thin; stipules slender, spinulose; primary pinnae in (1-)2-3(-4) pairs, laminae of pinna widely spaced, linear, 5-15 cm long x 2-5 mm wide, midrib often bright red, margins thickened and finely crenulate, tapering to pungent point. Male flowering stem slender, inflorescence elongate, dense-flowered, 10-30(-40) cm long; bracts many, spreading; bract sheath short, membranous; bract stipules short, pungent; bract lamina slender, to 4 cm long. Umbels and umbellules on long slender rays. Female flowering stem denser, forming an inflorescence to 60 cm long; lower bracts often empty; peduncles and rays long, slender. Fruit of two mericarps; mericarps narrowly oblong-elliptic to elliptic, (6.0-)6.5-9.0 mm, with 3-4 even narrowly winged ribs, other ribs not evident, vittae evident as narrow dark ribs between wings

### Flowering:

December-January

### Fruiting:

February-March

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description adapted from Allan (1961), Mark and Adams (1995), Webb and Simpson (2001) and Wilson (1996).

### References and further reading:

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

Mark, A.F; Adams, N.M. 1995. New Zealand alpine plants, 2nd Edition. Godwit Publishing, Auckland

Wilson, H.D. 1996. Wild plants of Mt Cook National Park. Manuka Press, Christchurch

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

Webb, C.J. & Simpson, M.J.A. 2001. Seeds of NZ gymnosperms and dicotyledons. Manuka Press, Christchurch



Winged schizocarps are dispersed primarily by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1455](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1455)



**Caption:** Young Range, Mt Aspiring  
**Photographer:** John Barkla



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