



## *Bulbinella gibbsii* var. *balanifera*

### Common Name(s):

Maori onion

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. North and South Islands. In the North Island known from the southern Ruahine and Tararua Ranges. In the South Island known from the ranges about Arthurs Pass south to Fiordland.

### Habitat:

Alpine in free draining, open habitats such as tussock grassland, the bases of talus slopes and in herbfield. Rarely in subalpine scrub.

### Features\*:

Subdioecious, diminutive, summer green, fleshy, lily up to 600 mm tall. Leaves up to 30 mm wide, strap-like, reddish green to dark green, fleshy. Peduncle mostly shorter than raceme. Peduncle longer, often exceeding leaves. Raceme mostly conical (rarely cylindrical), the axis visible between flowers. Pedicels 10-20 mm long, swollen below flower, elongating slightly after anthesis. Bracts shortly-acuminate, notably shorter than pedicel in flowering and fruiting material. Flowers 10-14 mm diameter, dark yellow, numerous, densely crowded; tepals patent, becoming erect and hardening as fruit matures. Stamens 6, < tepals; anthers mostly well filled with pollen. Ovary barrel-shaped, scarcely stipitate. Capsules barrel-shaped. Seeds dark and narrowly winged.

### Flowering:

January - February

### Fruiting:

February - June

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description modified from: Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington. 354pp.

### References and further reading:

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington. 354pp.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1577](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1577)



**Caption:** Gertrude Valley  
**Photographer:** John Barkla



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