



Celmisia argentea

Common Name(s):

silver cushion mountain daisy

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island: Otago and Southland from Garvie Mountains southwards

Habitat:

Montane to subalpine damp grassland and boggy places

Features*:

Densely branched subshrub forming small cushions or sometimes mats up to $\pm 200 \times 200$ mm, usually rather shorter; branches up to c. 150 mm long, woody ascending, stout, clad in persistent leaf-remnants; branchlets very close-set, ± 50 mm. long, erect or ascending. Leaves numerous, very densely imbricate, ascending. Lamina $\pm 6.0-12.0 \times 0.5-1.5$ mm, coriaceous, linear-subulate, clad on both surfaces in greyish white appressed tomentum, concavo-convex; apex subacute to acute, sometimes subcucullate. Sheath \pm = lamina, rather broader, pale, membranous, clad in long silky hairs on margins and back, becoming glabrous or nearly so. Capitula sessile or nearly so, terminal, sunk among apical leaves, $\pm 6-12$ mm diameter; involucre bracts linear-subulate, almost scarious, pale except at dark tip, up to c.10 mm long, glabrous except for a few hairs at tip, midvein distinct. Ray-florets 8-10 mm long, white; tube very slender, limb about lanceolate, 3-4-toothed, veins evident. Disk-florets c. 7 mm long, very narrow-funnelform, teeth minute, triangular. Achenes c.3 mm long, narrow-cylindric, subcompressed, ribs clad in very short ascending hairs. Pappus-hairs up to 6 mm long, white, slender, very finely barbellate

Flowering:

October - January

Fruiting:

November - 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.

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

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1610



Caption: Lammerlaw Range
Photographer: John Barkla



Caption: Rock and Pillar Range
Photographer: John Barkla