



## *Celmisia coriacea*

### Common Name(s):

Fiordland mountain daisy

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. South Island: Fiordland from about Nancy Sound to near Puysegur Point, generally most abundant in western Fiordland but extending east into Southland via the Hunter Mountains, the Hump and Longwood Range

### Habitat:

Montane to alpine. A common component of wet grassland and herbfield especially near timber line where it forms large patches in boggy grass-rush communities intermixed with low scrub.

### Features\*:

Stout woody-based herb with branchlets arising from a multicapital stock, usually hidden; living leaves in large rosettes at the tips of branchlets, the whole plant forming an irregular sward-like patch; leaf sheaths densely imbricate and compacted, forming a pseudostem. Leaf lamina 160-400 x 25-55 mm, coriaceous, older leaves somewhat patent, lanceolate or occasionally oblong; upper surface sulcate, somewhat rugose in some plants, bronze-green with a conspicuous orange stripe along the midrib, pellicle bronze, obvious, and deciduous in old leaves; lower surface densely covered in glistening appressed tomentum, midrib prominent; tip acute; margins entire, often slightly revolute; base more or less cuneate, occasionally abruptly narrowed to the petiole. Petiole short. Sheath up to 130 x 40 mm, yellowish, clad in floccose white hairs. Scape densely clad in floccose white hairs, stout, up to 450 mm long; bracts several in upper half, erect, up to 80 mm long, strongly revolute; monocephalous. Ray florets 160-200, ligulate, the limb narrow-linear, white. Disc florets 200-250, 7-8 mm long, funneliform, yellow, tube with long eglandular biseriate hairs in lower half. Achene fusiform to obovoid, strongly grooved, 4.5-5.0 mm long, moderately to densely hairy; hairs short, appressed, bifid. Pappus unequal, up to 6 mm long, of c.30 barbellate bristles.

### Flowering:

November - February

### Fruiting:

January - April

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description from Given (1984)

### References and further reading:

Given, D.R. 1980: A taxonomic revision of *Celmisia coriacea* (Forst.f.) Hook.f. and its immediate allies (Astereae-Compositae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 18: 127-140.

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=1617](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1617)



**Caption:** Mt Burns, Southland (seed head)

**Photographer:** Jesse Bythell



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