Celmisia laricifolia

Common Name(s):

needle-leaved mountain daisy

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island: Widespread from Nelson south to Southland

Habitat:

Montane to subalpine in open sparsely vegetated ground, on the margins of mires, in grassland, fellfield, and rocky places.

Features*:

Small slender branched subshrub up to c. 150 mm tall; branches slender, diverging, clad in leaf-remnants; branchlets densely clad in imbricate, ascending, finally recurved, leaves. Lamina very narrow-linear, c.8.0-20.0 \times 1.0-1•5 mm, subcoriaceous; upper surface dark, dirty-silvery-grey, with a delicate deciduous pellicle, lower clad in a very thin white to grey-white appressed tomentum; apex produced into a delicate acicular point c.2 mm long, easily broken off; margin recurved nearly or quite to midrib; base slightly narrowed to pale scarious \pm pilose sheath 8.0 \times 1.0-1•5 mm. Scape 5-10 mm long, very slender to almost filiform, \pm clad in loose floccose deciduous hairs; bracts few, narrow-subulate, minute, sts absent. Capitula 10-20 mm diameter; involucral bracts subulate to linear-lanceolate, erect, membranous, c.7 mm long. Ray-florets several, prominent, up to c. 12 mm long, limb gradually widening to



Caption: Craigieburn, Canterbury **Photographer:** Jane Gosden



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apex; disk-florets funnelform to campanulate, hardly > 5 mm long. Achenes slender, compressed-cylindric, \pm 3 mm long, clad in ascending stiff hairs; pappus-hairs white, up to $4 \cdot 5$ mm long, very minutely barbellate

Flowering: Fruiting:

September - May October - August

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

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