



## *Celmisia semicordata subsp. aurigans*

### **Common Name(s):**

large mountain daisy

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. South Island: Central and eastern Otago and Southland (Maungatua, Old Man Range, Skippers, Garvie Mountains).

### **Habitat:**

Montane to alpine. In depleted tussock grasslands and occasionally in herbfield and fellfield

### **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 pseudo-stem. Leaf lamina 110-420 × 20-70 mm, more or less coriaceous, at first erect but soon becoming patent, lanceolate to oblong-ovate; upper surface regularly sulcate, margin recurved, ± concolorous, masked by an obvious golden pellicle sometimes fading to leaden in old leaves; lower surface densely covered in glistening appressed tomentum, midrib prominent; tip acute; margins entire, flat or moderately recurved; base more or less cuneate, occasionally abruptly narrowed to the petiole. Petiole short. Sheath up to 120 × 0 mm, greenish or slightly purplish, clad in floccose white hairs. Scape densely clad in floccose white hairs, stout, up to 450 mm long; bracts ± foliaceous, prominent, erect, up to 150 mm long, margins revolute; usually monocephalous but occasionally with several capitula especially in cultivated specimens. Ray florets 200-250, ligulate, the limb narrow-linear, white. Disc florets 400-450, 8-9 mm long, funneliform, yellow, tube with long eglandular biseriate hairs in lower half. Achene fusiform, strongly grooved, 6-7 mm long, glabrous. Pappus unequal, 6 mm long, of c.40 barbellate bristles.

### **Flowering:**

October - February

### **Fruiting:**

November - July

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Description from Given (1980)

### **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.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1640](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1640)