



## *Celmisia traversii*

### Common Name(s):

mountain daisy

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. South Island — Tasman Mountains as far south as the Wangapeka Saddle; along the main divide from St Arnaud Range to about Doubtful Valley; scattered populations in mountains south of Wairau Valley to Hanmer; Shale Peak, Canterbury; eastern Fiordland from Key Summit to the Hump and Cameron mountains; Mararoa Valley; Takitimu Mountains

### Habitat:

Montane to alpine. Mostly in tussockland and rocky herbfield, especially south facing. In inland Marlborough it occurs on shaded bluffs in the headwaters of major rivers.

### Features\*:

Woody-based herb with short branchlets arising from a multicapital stock, usually just below the soil surface; living leaves in rosettes at the tips of branchlets; the whole plant forming a clump of few to many rosettes. Leaf sheaths densely imbricate and compacted into pseudostem. Leaf lamina 50-300 × 15-90 mm, coriaceous, at first erect but later decumbent, lanceolate, elliptic, oblong to sometimes oblanceolate; upper surface often sulcate, concolorous, deep green, glabrous or with whitish hairs especially along the midrib; lower surface densely clad with thick ferruginous or deep buff tomentum; tip acute, margins entire, rimmed with ferruginous hairs; base obliquely cuneate or truncate; petiole usually short, sometimes up to 1/3 - 2/3 lamina length, purple, often clad in floccose whitish hairs. Scape purple, clad in buff or ferruginous tomentum, up to 300 mm long; bracts numerous, erect, linear; monocephalous. Capitula up to 60 mm diameter. Involucral bracts in several series, linear-subulate, erect, clad throughout with brown tomentum. Ray florets c.75, ligulate, the limb linear-lanceolate, white. Disc florets c. 160, funneliform, yellow; tube with eglandular, biseriate hairs. Achene fusiform cylindrical, strongly ribbed, 5 mm long, glabrous. Pappus unequal 6-7 mm long, of c. 30 bristles.

### Flowering:

November - March

### Fruiting:

December - May

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description based on Given (1984)

### References and further reading:

Given, D.R. 1984: A taxonomic revision of *Celmisia* subgenus *Pelliculatae* section *Petiolatae* (Compositae—Astereae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 22: 139-158.

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* 11: 285-309

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1647](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1647)



**Caption:** Rachael Range, Molesworth

**Photographer:** Gillian Crowcroft



**Caption:** Mt Technical, Canterbury

**Photographer:** Jesse Bythell