



Veronica mooreae

Common Name(s):

Hebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Widespread on South Island, from the Wakamarama Range in the north to the Longwood Range in the south, chiefly on wetter mountains west of the Main Divide.

Habitat:

It grows mostly in penalpine grassland and subalpine shrubland.

Features*:

Spreading low or bushy shrub to 1.2 (-2) m tall. Branches erect, old stems brown; branchlets green, pubescent (with somewhat strap-like, white, multicellular hairs often more or less appressed and upward-facing), hairs bifarious; internodes 1-4 (-8) mm; leaf decurrencies swollen and extended for length of internode (usually somewhat saddle-shaped); leaves abscising above nodes and lower part of petioles remaining attached to stem. Leaf bud distinct; sinus broad and shield-shaped. Leaves erecto-patent; lamina oblong or oblong-elliptic or oblong-lanceolate, rigid, slightly concave, (7-) 14-18 (-28) x (3-) 4-6 (-8) mm; apex acute or subacute; base cuneate (mostly) or truncate; midrib thickened below and depressed to grooved above (but not necessarily prominent on upper surface); margin glabrous, minutely crenulate; upper surface dark green, glossy, without evident stomata (usually) or with many stomata (on plants from Caswell Sound or Denniston Plateau), glabrous; lower surface dark green; petiole 1-3 mm, glabrous. Inflorescences with 3-13 flowers, lateral, unbranched, 0.8-2.9 cm, shorter to longer than subtending leaves; peduncle 0.1-0.5 cm; rachis 0.7-2.6 cm. Bracts opposite and decussate, connate, ovate or deltoid, obtuse or subacute. Flowers hermaphrodite. Pedicels absent or when present always shorter than bracts, 0-1 mm. Calyx 3.3-4.5 mm, with anterior lobes free for most of their length or united to 1/3-way to apex; lobes lanceolate or ovate, subacute or obtuse, eglandular ciliolate or with mixed glandular and eglandular cilia (can vary on calyces from one plant). Corolla tube hairy inside or glabrous, approximately 4 x 2.4-2.6 mm, funnellform (narrowly) and contracted at base, equalling or longer than calyx; lobes white at anthesis, elliptic (often broadly) or lanceolate (anterior only), obtuse, patent to recurved, longer to shorter than corolla tube, sparsely hairy inside. Stamen filaments 3-4 mm; anthers pink (often faintly). Ovary ovoid or ellipsoid or globose, 1-1.3 mm; ovules 8-15 per locule; style 5.5-8.5 mm. Capsules subacute or obtuse, 3.5-4.5 x 2-2.8 mm, loculicidal split extending 1/4-way to base. Seeds flattened, more or less broad ellipsoid, more or less winged, more or less smooth, pale brown, 1.2-1.8 x 0.9-1.2 mm, micropylar rim approximately 0.4 mm.

Flowering:

November-February (-June)

Fruiting:

January-June (-December)

*Attribution:

Description adapted by M. Ward from Bayly & Kellow (2006).

References and further reading:

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer.

Bayly, M.J., Kellow, A.V. 2006. An illustrated guide to New Zealand Hebes. Wellington, N.Z.: Te Papa press pg. 218.

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=1995



Caption: Hebe mooreae

Photographer: Sandra
Wotherspoon