



Selliera rotundifolia

Common Name(s):

Selliera

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Declining

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (westerly from about Whanganui south to Paekakariki).

Habitat:

In dune fields where it grows in seasonally damp swales (depressions), occasionally found along the margins of slow flowing tidal streams.

Features*:

Rhizomatous, mat-forming herb, forming dense patches up to 700 mm diam., or diffuse patches when trailing through other vegetation. Stems 1-2 mm diam. Petiole 3-7(-17) x 0.5-1 mm, distinct from leaf. Leaves dark green, glabrous, alternate, appressed to ground, lamina 3-7 x 3-5 mm, rotund, orbicular, leathery, entire, apex obtuse, base obtuse. Flowers single, arising in leaf axils. Pedicel 3-9 mm, glabrous, green to red-green, erect or spreading; bracts 1.5-2 x 0.7-0.9 mm, lanceolate, falcate, green, erect. Sepals 1-1.4 x 0.7-0.9 mm, narrow-triangular, distal part flushed red, apex subacute. Corolla 7-8 x 8-9 mm, 5 petals fused in proximal part, inner surface white, outer pale red. Petals 3-4 x 1.5-2 mm, lanceolate, falcate. Ovary 1.4-1.6 mm, green, glabrous. Style purple-red, stigma glabrous, orange brown. Stamens 3, orange-brown. Fruit 2-3 x 2-3 mm, ovoid, green. Seeds 1.5 x 1 mm, cream-white, compressed.

Flowering:

December - February

Fruiting:

January - May

Threats:

This species is threatened throughout its range by the spread of faster growing and taller weed species which are rapidly modifying the damp, dune swale and estuarine habitats this species favours.

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 18 June 2006. Description adapted from Heenan (1997).

References and further reading:

Duguid, F. 1985. *Selliera radicans* with regular corolla. *Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin*, 42: 84

Heenan, P. B. 1997: *Selliera rotundifolia* (Goodeniaceae), a new, round-leaved, species from New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 35(2): 133-138

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=204



Caption: At Waikawa dunes. Nov 2004.

Photographer: Barbara Mitcalfe