



## *Senecio glomeratus* subsp. *glomeratus*

### Common Name(s):

fireweed

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Indigenous. Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands. Present in Australia

### Habitat:

A weedy species of disturbed ground. Predominantly coastal and lowland but does extend to the subalpine zone. Tolerant of water logged and very dry habitats

### Features\*:

Annual to short-lived perennial herb to 2 m tall. Stems erect or ascending to erect, moderately coarse-hairy, becoming sparsely coarse-hairy and/or appressed cottony or nearly glabrous upwards. Mid stem leaves more or less evenly spaced and sized, 50-200 mm long, dark glaucous green to dark green, elliptic to narrow-elliptic, length:width (l:w) ratio 2-7, coarse-dentate to deeply lobate, rarely not dissected, semiamplexicaul; margin with scattered or frequent denticulations or teeth; both surfaces usually coarse-hairy but commonly coarse hairs sparse or absent above mid stem; lower surface green or purple, above mid stem appressed, woolly, cobwebby or more or less glabrous. Uppermost leaves narrow-elliptic, lanceolate or linear, l:w ratio 3-10; dentate or margin appearing entire due to rolling. Unit Inflorescences of many capitula; total number of capitula per stem often 50-300, over topping variable; mature lateral peduncles mostly 4-13 mm long. Calycular bracteoles of capitula 6-12, 1.0-3.0 mm long; peduncle and margin of bracteoles cobwebby to densely woolly at anthesis; involucre 3.0-6.0 x 1.5-2.5 mm; involucre bracts 12-14, glabrous or basally slightly cobwebby, apex erect; stereomes (on drying) gently to moderately convex, green, black at apex, sometimes with a purple zone 1 mm long immediately below tip, sometimes entirely purple. Florets 26-50, c.80% female, dark sulphur yellow; corolla-lobes deltoid, thickened apically; corolla of bisexual florets 3.5-6.5 mm long, 5-lobed; corolla-lobes of female florets 2-4, mostly 0.2-0.3 mm long; corolla-limb commonly deeper cleft on inner face. Cypsela narrow obloid to narrow-ellipsoid, sometimes slightly clavate, < 1/3 of involucre bract length (1.0-1.7 mm long), commonly all medium to dark red-brown, with papillose hairs in lines or narrow bands, l:w ratio of hairs 3; pappus usually > 5 mm long.

### Flowering:

Throughout the year but most plants peak in summer

### Fruiting:

Late summer to early winter but can present all year

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (12 July 2005). Description based on Thompson (2004).

### References and further reading:

Thompson, I.R. 2004: Taxonomic studies of Australian Senecio (Asteraceae): 1. The disciform species. *Muelleria* 19: 101-214.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=2312](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2312)



**Caption:** *Senecio glomeratus* subsp. *glomeratus*

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth



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