



## *Veronica dilatata*

### Common Name(s):

None known

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

Endemic. South Island, confined to the southern South Island where it is locally known from the Umbrella, Garvie, Eyre and Takitimu ranges. It has also been recorded once from the Blue Mountains near Tapanui.

### Habitat:

A species of alpine habitats (usually > 1000 m a.s.l.) which is usually found in rocky ground, in and around boulders, at the toe of scree slopes or in adjoining tussock grassland, seepages and bogs.

### Features\*:

Spreading (either openly, densely or even mat-like) low or erect shrub up to 0.4 m tall. Branches decumbent to suberect, old stems dark brown to black; branchlets green, red or brown, bifariously pubescent; internodes 1-18 mm, leaf scars evident. Leaf bud distinct; sinus small and narrowly acute. Petiole 0.5-4 mm, hairy. Leaves 4-25 x 4-11 mm, glossy or dull green to glaucescent on both surfaces, obovate, spatulate or elliptic, coriaceous, concave, erect to recurved, arranged decussately or somewhat distichously; apex obtuse to rounded. Inflorescences with 5-52 flowers, lateral unbranched or tripartite (when unbranched with lowermost bracts enlarged and sterile); 5-42 mm, usually longer than or equal to subtending leaves. Peduncle 10-90 mm; rachis 5-23 mm. Flowers gynodioecious. Pedicels 0.5-2 mm, calyx 2.4-3.8 mm, 3-5-lobed, with anterior lobes united from one third to all the way to apex; lobes ovate, subacute, obtuse, or emarginate. Corolla tube 1.2-2.5 x 1.8-2.5 mm, funnelform, glabrous. Stamen filaments 3.8-4.2 mm, anthers magenta 1.9-2.2 mm. Ovary 0.7-1.5 mm; style 3.4-4.2 mm. Capsules 3.4-4.5 x 2.1-2.8 mm, obtuse to subacute, glabrescent. Seeds 0.9-1.1 x 0.6-1 mm, straw-yellow to pale brown, broad ovoid to sub-discoid.

### Flowering:

November - March

### Fruiting:

November - April

### Threats:

A naturally uncommon, wide ranging species which is never very common at any particular place.

### \*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Bayly & Kellow (2006)

### References and further reading:

Bayly M.; Kellow A. 2006: An Illustrated Guide to New Zealand Hebes. Te Papa Press: Wellington

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=266](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=266)



**Caption:** Hebe dilatata, Hector Mountains

**Photographer:** John Barkla



**Caption:** Hebe dilatata - cultivated

**Photographer:** John Barkla