



Ranunculus maculatus

Common Name(s):

None Known

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island from south western Canterbury to Otago and northern Southland

Habitat:

Montane to alpine in turf on lake and tarn margins, in bogs, seepages amongst short tussock grasses and in alpine flushes and cushion bogs.

Features*:

Short, tufted, sparsely hairy to glabrate perennial up to 50 mm tall forming small solitary or multiple rosettes. Petioles of cauline leaves up to 16 mm long, sheath 14 x 3 mm, membranous, very hairy, petioles and sheath mottled purple-green or completely purple-black. Cauline leaves 9 x 10 mm, dark green flecked with dark brown, brown, purple-brown or black, broadly elliptic, obovate-cuneate, obovate or orbicular, deeply 3-lobed, sparsely hairy or glabrous (hairs if present concentrated toward lamina margins). Scape apparently sessile to subsessile at flowering, elongating to 50 mm or toward the apex where glabrous. Flowers solitary, 8-10 mm diameter; sepals 5, 3 x 2 mm, broad-ovate, sparsely hairy to glabrous spreading at maturity, fugaceous; petals 5, 5 x 2 mm, yellow, oblong-obovate to spatulate; nectary single, 1-1.5 mm from petal base, shallow, pocket-like. receptacle hairy. Achenes 15-25, 1.5-1.9 mm long, dull brown, often blotched dark purple-brown or completely dark purple-brown, elliptic, ovate-elliptic or obovate-elliptic; beak usually curled or hooked to dorsal side, sometimes straight, 0.2-0.5 mm long.

Flowering:

November - February

Fruiting:

December - April

Threats:

Not Threatened. An apparently widespread, and at times locally common but generally biologically sparse species.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (30 August 2003). Description based on Allan (1961), Webb et al. (1988) and fresh specimens

References and further reading:

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

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1988: *Flora of New Zealand*. Vol. IV. Christchurch, DSIR Botany Division.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=310



Caption: Dunstan Range
Photographer: John Barkla



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