



## *Ranunculus simulans*

### Common Name(s):

None Known

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Data Deficient

### Distribution:

Endemic. North and South Islands. In the North Island known from Mt Eganaki, Kaimanawa and Ruahine Ranges. In the South Island recorded from north-west Nelson and Fiordland

### Habitat:

Lowland to alpine (0-1200 m a.s.l.), in damp seepages and pools within forest, along stream banks and in seepages and flushes in subalpine scrub and herbfield.

### Features\*:

Diminutive, tufted, rosette-forming perennial herb spreading by numerous, slender, trailing and arching stolons; these rooting freely at nodes. Basal leaves 3-10 mm diameter, dark green to bronze-green, suborbicular, shallowly 3-lobed at apex, lobe apices rounded, sometimes bluntly toothed again on lobes, base truncate, glabrous or finely hairy, membranous; cauline leaves similar but smaller, opposite or in lax whorls. Flowers solitary; scapes hairy and short, up to 15 mm long at fruiting. Flowers 3-5 mm diameter. Sepals spreading, sparsely hairy. Petals 0-5, yellow, narrowly obovate; nectary single, 0.5-1.5 mm from petal base, covered by a triangular scale. Receptacle hairy. Achenes 5-15, 1.4-1.9 mm long, dull medium buff to orange, light nut brown or grey brown, elliptic, broadly elliptic or broadly obovate; surface finely though regularly punctate, beak 0.1-0.3 mm long, hooked to dorsal side or reduced to remnant stub.

### Flowering:

November - January

### Fruiting:

January - April

### Threats:

Currently believed to be a very uncommon, widely distributed and biologically sparse species. It is very easily overlooked. There is as yet no clear evidence of any past or ongoing declines of this species within its known range.

### \*Attribution:

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

### References and further reading:

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=311](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=311)



**Caption:** Franklin Mountains, Fiordland

**Photographer:** John Barkla