



Senecio repangae subsp. repangae

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Eastern North Island, on offshore islands only, from Te Wakatehaua to Cuvier (Repanga) Island

Habitat:

Strictly coastal. A species of mainly offshore islands where it grows in the immediate vicinity of seabird colonies (gulls, shags, petrels, diving petrels). Also an opportunist on islands colonising sites where trees have fallen, pasture, and even behaving as a minor weed within lighthouse settlements.

Features*:

Erect, sparingly branched annual to short-lived perennial herb 0.2-1.2 m tall, arising from a stout woody rootstock. Foliage dull dark grey-green. Leaves pilose hairy; basal leaves cuneately narrowed or shortly petiolate, broadly elliptic-oval or rhomboidal, coarsely toothed, rarely lyrate-pinnatifid. Mid cauline leaves amplexicaul, usually deeply bifid at base, narrow, ovate, elliptic, lanceolate or oblong, pinnately lobed 1-2-pinnatifid with segments lanceolate to oblong, entire or few-toothed, gradually diminishing in size up stem, becoming apetiolate. Uppermost leaves smaller, lanceolate, dentate or pinnatifid. Supplementary bracts 5-9, narrow, 2-5 mm long; lower most usually dentate; margins often slightly villous, apex villous. Capitulum subcylindric; involucrel bracts 9-17, narrowly lanceolate, 8-14 mm long, glabrescent, with purple-black villous apices. Ray florets (0-)3-9, widely and irregularly spaced; ligules 1-2 mm, sulphur yellow; margin involute; apex recurved, incised 3-4 times. Disc yellow 4-5 mm diameter. Cypsela subcylindric, 2.5-3 mm long, grey, slightly narrowed at apex, covered in hairs, but hairs distinctly denser toward apices and between ribs.

Flowering:

September - March

Fruiting:

September - April

Threats:

Aside from Cuvier (Repanga) Island where it is abundant this subspecies is very uncommon and is known only from small, widely scattered populations.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 November 2008. Description based on de Lange & Murray (1998).

References and further reading:

de Lange, P.J.; Murray, B. G. 1998: *Senecio repangae* (Asteraceae): a new endemic species from the north-eastern North Island, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 36(4): 509-519.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=320



Caption: Cuvier Island

Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft



Caption: Cuvier Island

Photographer: G.M. Crowcroft