



## *Aciphylla cartilaginea*

### **Common Name(s):**

None known

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. Stewart Island. Mt Rakeahua and Tin Range south to Smith's Lookout

### **Habitat:**

Subalpine boggy grassland and herbfield

### **Features\*:**

Low-growing cartilaginous-leaved herb. Rosettes single to several, closely-spaced. Leaves 6-9 cm long; pinnae stiff, usually in 2 pairs, 3-4 cm long x 2.5-3 mm wide, grooved; midrib conspicuous, broad, yellow; margins thick, obvious, yellow; apex pungent. Flowering stems to 20 cm tall but usually shorter particularly in male plants, appearing thick for size of plant, orange, umbels 5-6, crowded, more spreading in female plants and on obvious rays, in males flower barely exceeding bract sheath; sheaths broad. Fruit consisting of 2 mericarps; mericarps (3.0-)3.5-5.5 mm, mostly with 5 ribs and single internal vittae

### **Flowering:**

December

### **Fruiting:**

February-March

### **\*Attribution:**

Description adapted from Allan (1961), Webb and Simpson (2001), Wilson (1996) and Wilson (1982).

### **References and further reading:**

Alla, H. H. (1961). Flora of New Zealand, Volume 1: Indigenous Tracheophyta - Psilopsida, Lycopsida, Filicopsida, Gymnospermae, Dicotyledons. Botany Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Wellington, New Zealand.

Webb, C.J. & Simpson, M.J.A. 2001. Seeds of NZ gymnosperms and dicotyledons. Manuka Press, Christchurch

Wilson, H.D. 1996. Wild plants of Mount Cook National Park. Manuka Press, Christchurch

Wilson, H.D. 1982. Stewart Island plants. Whitcoulls Ltd, Christchurch

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=349](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=349)