



## *Aciphylla crosby-smithii*

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

None known

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

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. South Island; southern Fiordland (possibly also in western Otago and elsewhere in Fiordland)

### **Habitat:**

Exposed rocky slopes and short snow tussock herbfield. 1400-1600 m a.s.l.

### **Features\*:**

Herb forming stout tufts to 40 cm tall in flower. Rosettes several, crowded, +/- elongate, forming cushionlike mass to 60 cm diam. Leaves many, extending along base of flowering stem, stiff, 1-pinnate; sheath broad, membranous, 4 cm long x 1.5 cm wide, slowly narrowing to apex; stipules similar to pinnae, 35 mm long x 5 mm wide, narrowing to small mucro; leaf with pinnae in 2-3 pairs, petiole and internode (inter-pinnae spacing) short, linear-oblong, c. 3 cm long x 3-4 mm wide, midrib often red, margin slightly thickened, yellow, tapering to pungent mucro. Flowering stem grooved, c. 25 cm long x (2-)4-5 cm wide, upper nude part slender, lower part sheathed by leaves. Inflorescence a globose head of compound umbels; involucre bracts with thick sheaths up to 2 cm long and leaflike stipules and lamina. Primary umbels usually several, c. 2.5 cm diam., secondary umbels on almost filiform rays. Fruit of two mericarps; mericarps narrowly-elliptic to elliptic, 4.0-5.2 mm, with 5 even narrowly winged ribs, 4 smaller ribs on vittae, vittae largely obscured

### **\*Attribution:**

Description adapted from Allan (1961), Mark and Adams (1995), Webb and Simpson (2001) and Wilson (1996).

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

Allan, H.H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Government Printer, Wellington

Mark, A.F; Adams, N.M. 1995. New Zealand alpine plants, 2nd Edition. Godwit Publishing, Auckland

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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

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

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

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=351](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=351)



**Caption:** Mt Luxmore

**Photographer:** John Barkla



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