



## *Aciphylla stannensis*

### Common Name(s):

Tin Range speargrass

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

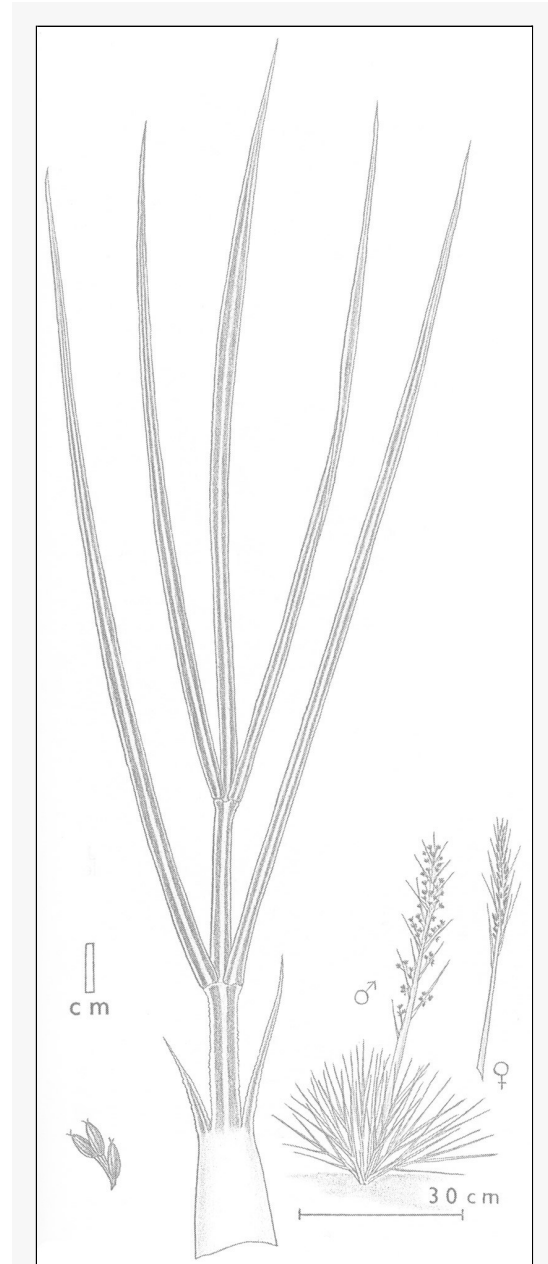
Endemic. Stewart Island, Tin Range between Blaikies Hill and Mt Allen.

### Habitat:

Subalpine to alpine (550-760 m a.s.l.), in exposed situations, though usually partially sheltered by other shrubs and tussock grasses

### Features\*:

Stout rosette-forming herb with ascending leaves. Rosettes 1-8(-many). Leaves cartilaginous, orange-green, up to 320 mm or more long, 1-pinnate with 1-2 pairs of leaflets; sheath up to 54 x 8-17 mm; stipules simplex, up to 27 x 1 mm, sometimes absent, spaced up to 6 mm apart at insertions; petiole up to 60 x 6 mm, often shorter, concave, margins acute, sheath joint obscure, pulvinus obscure or rarely evident then up to 5 mm long; lamina more or less obtrullate in profile; lowermost leaflet up to 220 x 5 mm with an apical spine up to 6 mm long, margin and midribs up to 1 mm wide, yellow or orange, margins often raised; marginal tubercles coarse up to 0.15 mm wide, often forming a discontinuous series. Inflorescences narrow. Female inflorescences 0.4-1 m long, with stems up to 250 x 10 mm, reddish brown; head up to 150 x 20 mm, more or less lanceolate in outline; compound umbels up to 22; lower bracts up to 100 mm long with a sheath up to 28 x 8 mm, stipules up to 12 x 1 mm, lamina simple up to 75 x 3 mm, segments ascending to appressed. Lower compound umbels up to 25 mm long, peduncles up to 6 x 1.4 mm, primary bracteoles minute, umbels up to 4 each with peduncles up to 8 x 1 mm, the innermost umbels often sessile, secondary bracteoles few up to 2 x 0.8 mm. Flowers up to 10 per umbel; pedicels up to 2 x 0.9 mm, sepals up to 0.3 mm; petals 1 x 0.6 mm, not inflexed, median oil tube red-brown, staminodes up to 0.6 mm long. Male inflorescence up to 380 mm long, stems up to 150 x 6 mm, reddish-brown; head 230 x 50 mm, narrow-ovate in outline; compound umbels up to 27; lower bracts up to 85 mm long, sheaths up to 30 x 4 mm, stipules up to 10 x 1 mm, lamina simple, up to 54 x 2 mm, segments ascending. Lower compound umbels up to 47 mm long, peduncles up to 23 x 1 mm, primary bracteoles minute; umbels up to 9 with peduncles up to 16 x 0.9 mm, the innermost umbels sessile to subsessile; secondary bracteoles 6-7, up to 1.5 x 0.3 mm. Flowers 12 per umbel, pedicels 3 x 0.4 mm; sepals 0.3 mm long; petals 1.1 x 0.75 mm, not inflexed, median oil-tube conspicuous, red-brown; stamens 1.75 mm long. Mericarps up to 8 x 3.3 mm, pale brown, glossy, each pair with 5/3 or 4/3 ribs; lateral ribs up to 0.5 mm wide; styles up to 1.2 mm long.



**Caption:** Reproduced with permission from Stewart Island plants (1982).

**Photographer:** Hugh D. Wilson

### Flowering:

January - February (more information needed)

### Fruiting:

February - April (more information needed)

### Threats:

Unknown. The few available reports for this species suggest it is a very localised, narrow range endemic common within its known habitats. It maybe threatened from browsing by white-tailed deer although there have been no reports of this.

### \*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Dawson (1980).

### References and further reading:

Dawson, J. W. 1980: *Aciphylla trifoliolata* Petrie and *A. stannensis* sp. nov. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 18: 115-120.

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* 11: 285-309.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=358](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=358)