



Calluna vulgaris

Common Name(s):

heather

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Terrestrial. A plant of montane, subalpine and alpine habitats. The plant grows in sites of low - moderate fertility. Plant found in scrub and forest margin, shrubland, tall and short tussockland, herbfields, riverbeds, wetlands, alpine gravel fields, dune slacks and road edges.

Features:

Shrub to c. 50cm tall; stems puberulent or densely hairy at first, becoming glabrous. Lvs 1.5-3.5mm long (including auricles), oblong-ovate or oblong-lanceolate; densely imbricate on non-flowering branches, keeled on abaxial surface, often ciliate, obtuse; auricles proximally directed. Infl. a narrow raceme 2-9-(c.20) cm long, sometimes almost paniculate. Pedicels very short, puberulent. Bracteoles several, similar to lvs, resembling a calyx below fl., obscuring pedicels. Sepals 2-4mm long, ovate-oblong, pink or mauve-pink, shining, +/- scarious. Corolla c. 3/4 length of calyx, deeply lobed, paler than calyx, persistent, scarious. Stamens c. = corolla; anthers>filaments. Style reddish, exerted. Capsules densely hairy, < perianth, subglobose. Seeds 0.5-0.7mm long, strongly reticulate, often aborted. (Webb.et.al.1988)

Flowering:

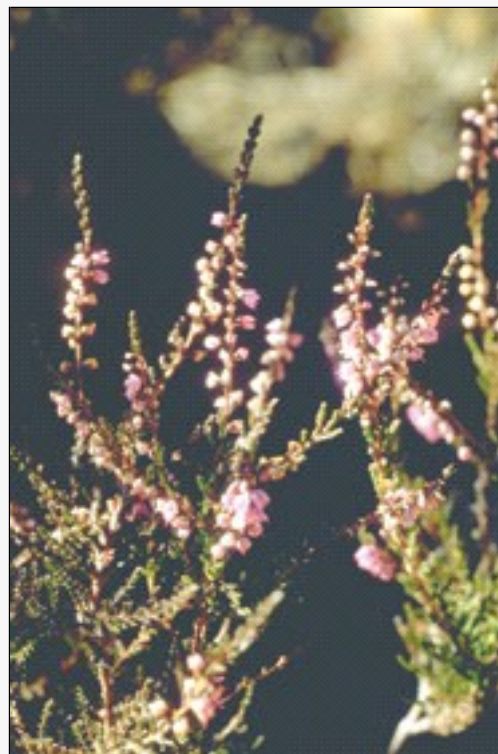
January, February,
March, April

Fruiting:

late March? - April, but seeds
shed into June or later.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3606



Caption: *Calluna vulgaris*

Photographer: ARC



Caption: Tongariro National Park.

Feb 2005.

Photographer: Colin Ogle