



Anisotome lyallii

Common Name(s):

Lyalls carrot

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South, Stewart, and Solander Islands. Present along the Fiordland coast from Jacksons Bay to Puysegur Point. Also found from Nugget Point to South Head. On Stewart Island known from western and southern coastline. Common on Stewart Island.

Habitat:

Coastal. On steep, south facing, sparsely vegetated cliffs, and in coastal turf, herbfield and on damp peaty ledges. Sometimes in coastal grassland, on boulder falls and even on sand dunes and beaches. In all its habitats it always found near the sea often within the spray zone.

Features*:

Perennial herb up to 0.8 m tall. Basal leaves on petioles 10-150 × 15-100 mm; sheaths 3-130 × 15-40 mm (sheaths of cauline leaves inflated); lamina oblanceolate to oblong, 0.10-0.45 × 0.02-0.13 m, 2-3-pinnate; primary leaflets 5-10 pairs, rhomboid, deltoid to ovate, shortly petiolate, coriaceous; secondary leaflets spatulate to rhomboid, sometimes ovate; leaflet margins not thickened, often pinnatifid, rarely deeply incised into broad or narrow, toothed segments; teeth obtuse to acute, not piliferous. Inflorescence up to 0.9 m tall and 10 mm diameter at the first node; peduncles 20-150 mm long. Flowers dirty white to white. Staminate plants – involucre comprising several linear to lanceolate bracts, 4-18 × 0.5-2.5 mm; involucre of several linear bracteoles 2-10 × 0.25-1 mm; rays 10-35, 5-25 mm long; pedicels 10-30, 1-5 mm long. Carpellate plants – involucre of several linear to lanceolate bracts 5-25 × 0.5-5 mm, the bracts sometimes bearing reduced blade at the tip; involucre of several linear bracteoles 2-10 × 0.5-1.5 mm; rays 4-30, 5-30 mm long; pedicels 5-25, 1-7 mm long; styles slender, 1-2 mm long, divergent to divaricate. Mericarps narrowly elliptic to elliptic, ovate or elliptic-ovate, 4.0-7.5 mm long; apex usually slightly narrowed; base obtuse to truncate; 5-ribbed, ribs even, equal, thin, narrowly winged, opaque or translucent at margin. Surface dull, ribs orange, orange-brown or dark brown, vittae visible or partially obscured, red-brown or dark brown.

Flowering:

November - January

Fruiting:

January - March

Threats:

Probably not threatened, although accessible populations in Fiordland and on Stewart Island are probably deer browsed. It is very common on Solander Island and occurs in reasonable numbers in the south-eastern part of the South Island. Nevertheless because this species is being browsed by deer it is probably incorrectly listed and its conservation status will need to be reassessed.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2007. Description based on Dawson (1961).

References and further reading:

Dawson, J.W. 1961: A revision of the genus *Anisotome* (Umbelliferae). *University of California Publications in Botany* 33: 1-98.

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=366



Caption: Flowers in the Catlins

Photographer: John Barkla



Caption: In the Catlins

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