



Brachyscome humilis

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island: Central Otago (Rock and Pillar Range)

Habitat:

Alpine. Inhabiting snowbanks and hollows above 1200 m.

Features*:

Perennial rosette herb, often forming loose mats. Leaves apetiolate, narrow- spathulate, mostly entire, rarely with 1-2 pairs of shallow teeth near apex, obtuse, glabrous, 5.0-10.0 × 1.0-1.5 mm. Peduncle naked, glabrous except for few glandular hairs below capitulum, 30-45 mm long and 0.3-0.6 mm diameter at flowering, elongating to up to 70 mm at fruiting. Involucral bracts elliptic to narrow-oblong, obtuse and fimbriate to apex, glabrous except for few glandular hairs at base, 2.5-3.0 mm long. Rays 12-22, white, c.3-5 mm long. Disc yellow. Achenes obovoid-oblong, compressed, eglandular, c.1.5 mm long; pappus of bristles c.0.3 mm long

Flowering:

December – February

Fruiting:

January - April

Threats:

Unclear. Probably a Naturally Uncommon species however this species remains very poorly known and until a comprehensive survey is undertaken ascertaining the exact conservation status of this species remains guesswork. It for this reason that it has been listed as Data Deficient. Furthermore, the status of similar plants found on the ultramafics of West Dome and the Livingston Range needs investigation

***Attribution:**

Description from: Webb et al (1988)

References and further reading:

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.; Sykes, W. R.; Garnock-Jones, P. J. 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons. 4. Christchurch, New Zealand, Botany Division, D.S.I.R.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=381



Caption: A plant on Rock and Pillar Range (February)

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth