



## *Bulbinella rossii*

### Common Name(s):

Ross Lily

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

Endemic. Auckland and Campbell Islands

### Habitat:

Widespread and common from sea level to the tops of island ranges. Flourishes in disturbed sites, and so common near old habitations and because it is not especially palatable, where browsing animals congregate. prefers open herbfield and tussock grassland, where it may form dense colonies.

### Features\*:

Dioecious, stout, perennial lily up to 1 m tall and 40 mm diameter at the base. Leaves fleshy, 0.6-1m x 15-60 mm wide, dark green, obtuse to subacute, apices recurved, nerves faint to prominent, easily felt when fresh. Peduncle up to 10 mm diameter, usually < leaf length. Inflorescence a cylindric raceme up to 150 x 600 mm; bracts and pedicels of almost equal length in female flowers and conspicuous in bud; in males < pedicels and inconspicuous in bud; pedicels 10-20 mm long, swollen just below flower. Flowers numerous, densely crowded, 10-14 mm diameter, golden yellow to sulphur yellow, often faintly tinged with orange; tepals oblong-ovate, spreading in males in females erect and remaining so, usually hardening as fruit ripens. Stamens < tepals; anthers in males conspicuously filled with pollen, in females rudimentary. Ovary 2 mm long, broad right to base. Capsule 10 mm long, broadly ovoid, gynophore absent. Seeds 4-6 mm long, dark brown to black, narrowly winged.

### Flowering:

October - January

### Fruiting:

December - March

### Threats:

Not Threatened. Listed only because with respect to the rest of the New Zealand archipelago it occupies a small geographic area

### \*Attribution:

Description modified by Peter de Lange from Moore and Edgar (1970)

### References and further reading:

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington. 354pp.

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

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=383](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=383)



**Caption:** Enderby Island  
**Photographer:** Jane Gosden



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