



Celmisia graminifolia

Common Name(s):

Whangarei Heads Daisy

Current Threat Status (2009):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island: Mt Manaia, Bream Head and other nearby high points

Habitat:

In coastal forest where it mostly grows on steep-sided, shaded or exposed, sparsely vegetated slopes, rock outcrops, cliff faces and rock tors. Also recorded from rough pasture and reverting shrubland.

Features*:

Tufted herb with simple or sparingly branched stock, pseudo-stem up to \pm 60 mm long. Lamina subcoriaceous, acute, often with fine apiculus, 60-250 \times 10-15 mm, narrowly to broadly oblong-lanceolate to almost linear-oblong (diverse forms may occur on same plant); upper surface \pm glabrous, dark green to yellow-green, with a distinct thin, persistent pellicle, midrib broad, grooved, main veins prominent; lower clad in soft white appressed or subappressed tomentum, midrib prominent; margins distantly finely denticulate, narrowing to petiole up to c. 30 mm long; sheath 40-50 \times 15 mm, dark green, sometimes tinged purple, veins evident, surface tomentum \pm as in lamina, margins floccose. Scape 150-300 mm long, rather slender, often flexuous, \pm flattened, floccose. Bracts usually few, up to 10 mm long, lamina almost filiform. Capitula 30-50 mm diameter; involucre bracts, green to pale green, linear-subulate to narrow-lanceolate, c.12 mm long, margins ciliate, midrib evident. Ray-florets numerous, up to 30 mm. long, tube slender; limb gradually widened to 4-toothed apex, veins distinct. Disk-florets 6.0-6.5 mm long, narrow-funnelform, teeth narrow-triangular. Achenes glabrous, strongly ribbed, narrowly compressed-cylindric to very narrowly obovoid, c.3.0-3.8 mm. long. Pappus-hairs sordid-white, up to 5 mm long, slender, finely barbellate.

Flowering:

September - April

Fruiting:

October - July

Threats:

A naturally uncommon, narrow range endemic that is abundant within its few known locations. Some populations have been damaged by tracking and illegal plant collection but most are inaccessible to the general public and one of the most vulnerable has been secure from these threats by a change in track systems to protect waahi tapu.

*Attribution:

P.J. de Lange (7 April 2009). Description adapted from Allan, H.H. 1961

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961: *Flora of New Zealand*. Vol. I, Government Printer, Wellington.

Cheeseman, T. F. 1906: *Manual of the New Zealand Flora*. Wellington, N.Z., Government Printer

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de Lange, P.J.; Rolfe, J.R. 2010: *New Zealand Indigenous Vascular Plant Checklist*. Wellington, New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. 164pp.

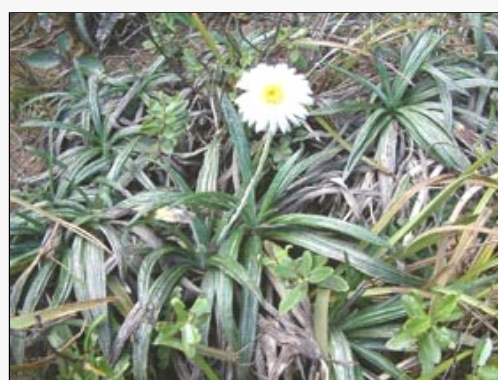
Hooker, J.D. 1844-1845[1844] : *The Botany of the Antarctic Voyage of H.M. Discovery Ships Erebus and Terror in the Years 1839-1843*. Vol. 1. Flora Antarctica Part I. Botany of Lord Auckland's Group and Campbell's Island ed. London., Reeve, Brothers. 208 p.

St George, I. 2009: *Colenso's collections*. Wellington, Securacopy. 412p.



Caption: Mt Manaia, November

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=413