



## *Celmisia markii*

### Common Name(s):

Marks Celmisia

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

Endemic. South Island south of Haast River to Mount Paulina, Caswell Sound. Also Mt Aspiring National Park.

### Habitat:

Alpine. On sparsely vegetated ground, fell field and in tussock grassland. Not known from ultramafic rocks.

### Features\*:

Woody-based perennial herb arising from multicapital stock and forming somewhat flattened hemispherical cushions up to 80 cm diameter. Leaf lamina linear, rigid, straight; current season's leaves erect, those of previous season becoming reflexed; 50.0-100.0 × 1.0-2.5 mm; upper surface with a median groove, yellowish green, clad in a persistent pellicle which becomes grey-green on older leaves; lower surface clad in white appressed tomentum; margins entire, strongly recurved to midrib; tip acute but not markedly acicular. Leaf sheath up to 50 mm long, membranous, purplish, covered with a thin pellicle. Scape 80-150 × 2-3 mm; bracts few, up to 25 mm long, glabrate, yellowish-green. Involucral bracts erect, linear-subulate, acute, up to 15 mm long, glabrate, tawny brown, venation simple. Receptacle obconic, surface alveolate. Ray florets up to 15 mm long, limb narrow, linear-lanceolate and glabrous, tube narrow and glabrous. In disc florets, corolla tube gradually narrowed from apex to base, glabrous; stamen tip acute, anther tails short; style bifid, arms differentiated into a lower parallel-sided papillose portion shorter than the triangular appendage which bears short collecting hairs. Pappus bristles unequal, c.25 in number, 3.5-5.0 mm long with closely spaced, short teeth. Achenes 3-3.5 mm long, fusiform, ribbed and clad in short bifid hairs.

### Flowering:

December - February

### Fruiting:

December - February

### Threats:

A naturally uncommon species that does not appear to be actively threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description from: Lee and Given (1984)

### References and further reading:

Lee, W.G.; Given, D.R. 1984: *Celmisia spedenii* G. Simpson, an ultramafic endemic, and *Celmisia markii*, sp. nov., from southern New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 22: 585-592.

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=425](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=425)



**Caption:** Waitototo Valley, Mt Aspiring National Park  
**Photographer:** John Barkla



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