



Celmisia morganii

Common Name(s):

Ngakawau Gorge Daisy

Current Threat Status (2012):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island: Vicinity of Ngakawau (Ngakawau River Gorge, Haggard Creek, Blackwater River)

Habitat:

Lowland to montane. Riparia, in damp seepages and wet spots in rock talus above rivers and creeks, and on shaded, wet cliff faces along river gorges

Features*:

Woody-based herb with branchlets arising from a multicapital stock, usually close to soil surface; living leaves in large rosettes at the tips of branchlets, the whole plant forming irregular patches of numerous rosettes; leaf sheaths densely imbricate and compacted, forming a pseudo-stem. Leaf lamina 150-350 × 18-30 mm, subcoriaceous or flaccid, older leaves weakly patent, lanceolate to oblong; upper surface finely sulcate, concolorous, dark green, glabrate or with a thin, scurfy greenish pellicle; lower surface densely covered in glistening appressed tomentum, midrib prominent and sometimes purple; tip acute; margins entire, slightly revolute; base ± gradually narrowed to a purple, ribbed petiole up to 80 mm long. Sheath up to 60 × 25 mm, purple (rarely greenish), clad in floccose, white hairs or glabrate. Scape purple, thinly clad in floccose, white hairs, slender, up to 300 mm long; bracts several in upper 1/2, erect, linear; monocephalous. Ray florets c.40, ligulate, the limb narrow-linear, white. Disc florets c.50, 6 mm long, funneliform, yellow, tube with long eglandular biseriate hairs. Achene fusiform, grooved, 3.0-4.5 mm long, glabrous or slightly hairy; hairs short, appressed, bifid. Pappus unequal, c.6 mm long, of c.30 barbellate bristles.

Flowering:

September - July

Fruiting:

October - August

Threats:

A Naturally Uncommon, narrow range endemic that is abundant within its few known locations. Although there are known major active threats the main population is located within a river system under investigation for a hydroelectric dam

*Attribution:

Description from Given (1980)

References and further reading:

Given, D.R. 1980: A taxonomic revision of *Celmisia coriacea* (Forst.f.) Hook.f. and its immediate allies (Astereae-Compositae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 18: 127-140.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=426



Caption: Ngakawau Gorge, January 2009

Photographer: Val Smith



Caption: Ngakawau Gorge, January 2009

Photographer: Val Smith