



Celmisia spectabilis subsp. *lanceolata*

Common Name(s):

Common mountain daisy, cotton plant

Current Threat Status (2012):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island. Eastern and North Wairarapa from Cape Palliser north to Castlepoint and Mt Kupukore.

Habitat:

Coastal to montane. Locally occurring at rocky sites on ridge crests and steep sided, craggy hills (locally known as taipo), in gorges, and descending to sea level at several locations. localities

Features*:

Woody-based herb forming mats or cushions up to 1.5 m diameter; with branchlets arising from a usually hidden simple or multicapital stock. Living leaves in rosettes at the tips of branchlets, the whole forming a cushion or mat. Leaf sheaths densely imbricate and compacted, forming a pseudostem. Leaf lamina 70-240 × 9-30 mm, (ratio of length to width ± 10); coriaceous, usually lanceolate-oblong to narrowly ovate; upper surface shining and sulcate: lower surface densely covered in soft felted almost tomentum, midrib distinct; tip acute; margins entire and recurved, occasionally minutely toothed, with the lamina base attenuate; sheath greenish. Petiole thin with evident veins. Scape densely clad in floccose white hairs, stout, up to 300 mm long, bracteate, monocephalous. Corolla of disc florets and achenes often with uniseriate and biseriate hairs, mostly hairy, rarely glabrous. Ray florets 40-100, ligulate, white. Disc florets 60-200, 5-9 mm long, funneliform: tube glabrous or with scattered uniseriate or biseriate hairs. Achene fusiform cylindrical, grooved, 1.5-6.5 mm long, usually sparsely covered in bifid hairs, rarely glabrous. Pappus hairs 5-9 mm long, barbellate.

Flowering:

October - April

Fruiting:

November - May

Threats:

A Naturally Uncommon, narrow range endemic that is abundant within its few known locations. It does not seem to be especially threatened by browsing animals. In some places it is present in rough pasture and actively spreading.

*Attribution:

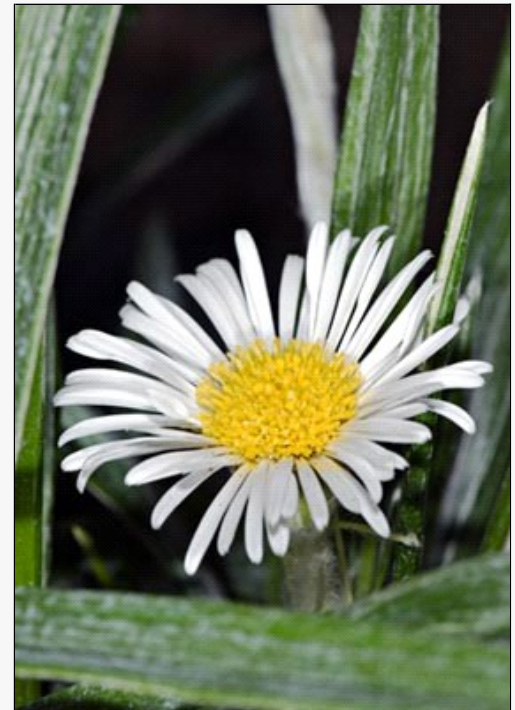
Description based on Given (1984)

References and further reading:

Given, D.R. 1984: A taxonomic revision of *Celmisia* subgenus *Pelliculatae* section *Petiolatae* (Compositae—Astereae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 22: 139-158.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=431



Caption: In cultivation ex Tainui Taipos, Wairarapa. Mar 2007.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



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