



Veronica rigidula var. *sulcata*

Common Name(s):

Hebe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Threatened - Nationally Critical

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: South Island (mainly D'Urville Island but also on Editor Hill and Lookout Peak in the Marlborough Sounds)

Habitat:

A plant of montane habitats where it grows in low scrub and other sparsely vegetated sites on rubble slopes, rock outcrops and in and around boulders along the melange of the mineralised zone leading from D'Urville Island south through the Marlborough Sounds to Mt Dun

Features*:

Low growing, openly branched, bushy shrub 0.3-0.6 m tall. Branches erect, old stems brown; branchlets green, pubescent, hairs bifarious; internodes 1.0-5.5 mm. Leaf bud distinct, weakly tetragonous in cross-section; sinus narrow and acute. Leaves erect to patent; elliptic or broadly elliptic, coriaceous, sulcate (m-shaped in cross-section), 9.4-28.2 × 3.2-8.7 mm, ratio of leaf length to width 2.5-3.5; apex acute or subacute; margin minutely papillate; upper surface green, dull or slightly glossy, glabrous or minutely hairy along midrib (especially toward base); lower surface glaucous or glaucescent; petiole 2.0-3.2 mm long, glabrous or minutely hairy along margins (especially on youngest leaves) and /or rarely hairy above. Inflorescences with 10-40 flowers, lateral, usually tripartite or rarely with more than 3 branches or unbranched, 14-32 mm long, > or < subtending leaves; peduncle 3-12 mm; rachis 7-28 mm. Bracts opposite and decussate, or opposite and decussate below and becoming alternate above, ovate or deltoid, obtuse or subacute. Flowers hermaphrodite. Pedicels < bracts, 0.3-2.0 mm long. Calyx 1.5-2.5 mm; lobes elliptic, oblong or ovate, obtuse or subacute, with mixed glandular/eglandular cilia or wholly eglandular. Corolla tube glabrous 2.5-4.0 × 1.7 mm, cylindric, > calyx; lobes white or pale mauve at anthesis, elliptic, ovate or oblong, obtuse rarely emarginate, suberect to recurved, < corolla tube. Stamen filaments 3-4 mm long; anthers buff or faintly tinged pink, 1.7-2.0 mm. Ovary 0.9-1.0 mm; style 5-7 mm. Capsules obtuse or subacute, 2.4-4.0 × 1.8-2.5 mm, loculicidal split extending 1/4-1/2 way to base. Seeds flattened, ellipsoid, discoid or irregular, brown to pale brown, 0.8-1.6 × 0.7-1.1 mm.

Flowering:

November – February

Fruiting:

December – October

Threats:

A Naturally Uncommon, range-restricted endemic which is known from only three main populations. At none of these it is very common. However, there are no obvious threats.

*Attribution:

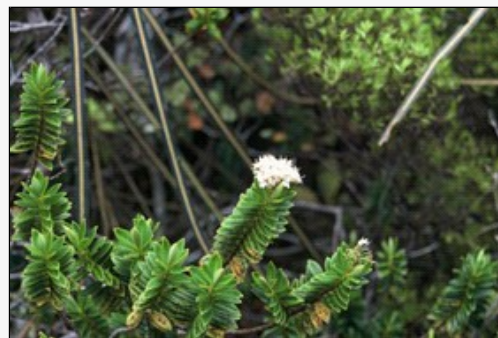
Fact Sheet by Peter J. de Lange (1 August 2006). Description modified from: Bayley and Kellow (2006)

References and further reading:

Bayly, M.; Kellow, A. 2006: An illustrated guide to New Zealand Hebes. Te Papa Press, Wellington.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=539



Caption: *Hebe rigidula* var. *sulcata* near Attempt Hill (TYPE SPECIMEN)

Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft, January 2001, D'Urville Island