



Pleurophyllum speciosum

Common Name(s):

Great emperor daisy

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Auckland and Campbell Islands.

Habitat:

Coastal to montane herbfield

Features*:

Radicals leaves 150-450 × 100-250 mm, appressed to ground or ascending, broadly obovate to subrhomboid, narrowed to broad base, coriaceous, margins remotely and indistinctly crenate to subentire, hydathodes hidden by tomentum; lateral veins ridged, almost as strong as midrib. 15-30; lamina loosely tomentose below, pilose on and near veins above and with numerous moniliform hairs on surface. Scapes stout, up to 1 m tall, tomentose above; lower leaves c.150 mm long, ± oblong, upper diminishing gradually to bracts. Capitula c.60 mm diameter including long ray-florets, c.25 in subcorymbose racemes; ray-florets pale purple to white, disk-florets purple. Involucral bracts ± clad in moniliform hairs, acute. Achenes densely strigose. Pappus-hairs not thickened above.

Flowering:

December – February

Fruiting:

January – May

Threats:

A naturally uncommon endemic. Widespread within its island habitats. The subantarctic islands on which it occurs are Nature Reserves and World Heritage sites with access only by permit, and strictly limited as to numbers of people.

***Attribution:**

Description adapted from: Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=628



Caption: Campbell Island

Photographer: Jane Gosden



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