



## *Ranunculus viridis*

### **Common Name(s):**

None Known

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Threatened - Nationally Critical

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. Stewart Island, Tin Range

### **Habitat:**

Subalpine (c.700 m a.s.l.) in damp shaded sites, on ledges, hollows, crevices and clefts of rock outcrops in subalpine scrub.

### **Features\*:**

Perennial herb forming rosettes 80-100 mm diameter, or compact patches up to 300 mm diameter. Rhizome stout, 4-8 mm diameter, apex covered in long persistent, fibrous petiolar remnants; roots numerous, fleshy 1.5 mm diameter. Petiole 15-30 mm long, base broadly sheathing, covered in fine cobwebbed hairs, deeply grooved on upper surface. Leaves 20-40 mm diameter, bright green above paler beneath, both surfaces very glossy, deltoid to orbicular or sub-reniform, thick and rigidly firm, lamina divided about 3/4 of the way into the 3-5-lobed segments, sparsely hairy, lobe apices surmounted by a penicillate hair tuft. Flowers 25-30 mm diameter, solitary initially on very short peduncles; these elongating at fruiting to c.30-50 mm length and broadening toward apex; ebracteate, green, usually purple-stained at base, clad in fine, cobwebbed hairs. Flowers with 5 sepals, these 15 mm long, greenish-yellow, finely hairy beneath, glabrescent above, broadly oblong-obovate, apices emarginate; petals 5 not or scarcely exceeding sepals, 10-12 x 6-8 mm, basal third green otherwise bright yellow, oblong to oblong-obovate, apex cucullate, base abruptly narrowed; nectary comprising 3 pits per petal with the central pit the largest; receptacle glabrescent, pale yellow-green. Fruiting head compact, 12 mm diameter, globose to ovoid. Achenes numerous, 1.9-2.6 mm long, semi glossy brown, obovate to broadly obovate, beak straight, tapering, 2-2.6 mm long.

### **Flowering:**

December - March

### **Fruiting:**

December - May

### **Threats:**

This species is an extremely narrow-range endemic, which so far is only known from a very small area on the upper slopes of Mt Allen, on the Tin Range.

### **\*Attribution:**

Fact Sheet prepared for the NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2006. Description adapted from Wilson & Garnock-Jones (1983) - see also de Lange et al. (2010).

### **References and further reading:**

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch.

Wilson, H.D.; Garnock-Jones, P. J. 1983: Taxonomic notes on Stewart Island *Ranunculus* including two new species. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 21: 341-345.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=664](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=664)