



## *Pimelea barbata subsp. omoia*

### Common Name(s):

Pimelea

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (Moawhango River Gorge on the western side of the southern Kaimanawa Range)

### Habitat:

Montane. Sandstone cliffs and slopes below them, within open shrubland and short grassland

### Features\*:

Small to medium-sized prostrate to procumbent shrubs (plants sometimes forming large patches, to 1 m or more wide). Branching mainly sympodial. Young branchlets brown, densely covered by relatively long white to dull-white hairs; internodes 1.5-6.0 mm long; older stems glabrate, grey-brown to brown. Node buttresses lunate (0.4 mm long) masked by hairs on young branchlets, not very prominent on leafless stems. Leaves decussate, on very short petioles (0.4 mm), ascending, often becoming patent to deflexed. Lamina 8-12 × 3-5 mm, broad-elliptic to ovate, often rather variable in size and differing from plant to plant, slightly adaxially concave, acute, base cuneate. Adaxial leaf hairs dense. Vestiture short, white, hispid, villous, or rarely curled, usually appressed. Older leaves may be glabrate, dull-green. Mid-vein may be evident abaxially. Stomata on both adaxial and abaxial surfaces. Inflorescences terminal on branchlets, compact, 2-7-flowered. Involucral bracts 4, the same size as or larger than adjacent leaves (7-10 × 4-6 mm). Receptacle with dense, long hairs. Plants gynodioecious. Flowers white on very short pedicels (0.6 mm). Outside densely hairy, inside hairless. Female tube 4 mm long, ovary portion 2 mm, calyx lobes 1.8 × 1.2 mm; hermaphrodite tube 6.5 mm long, ovary portion 2 mm, calyx lobes 2.3 × 1.9 mm. Anther dehiscence introrse. Ovary with short sparse hairs on summit. Fruits ovoid, fleshy, red 5.0-6.0 × 3.5-4.0 mm; seeds ovoid 3.2 × 2.0 mm, crest thin.

### Flowering:

September - January

### Fruiting:

November - May

### Threats:

*Pimelea barbata subsp. omoia* was formerly listed as "Taxonomically Indeterminate/Naturally Uncommon in Appendix 2 of de Lange et al. (2009) as *Pimelea aff. aridula* (c) (CHR 402249; Moawhango) qualified OL (One Location) and St (Stable). Beyond its formal taxonomic recognition, Burrows (2011) offers no concrete data or reasons to suggest a change in this status.

### \*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (9 October 2011). Description based on Burrows (2011).

### References and further reading:

Burrows, C.J. 2011: Genus *Pimelea* (Thymelaeaceae) in New Zealand 5. The taxonomic treatment of five endemic species with both adaxial and abaxial leaf hair. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 49: 367-412.

de Lange, P.J.; Norton, D.A.; Courtney, S.P.; Heenan, P.B.; Barkla, J.W.; Cameron, E.K.; Hitchmough, R.; Townsend, A.J. 2009: Threatened and uncommon plants of New Zealand (2008 revision). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 47: 61-96.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=6712](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=6712)



**Caption:** Moawhango River. Nov 2011.

**Photographer:** Colin Ogle



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