Senecio radiolatus subsp. antipodus

Common Name(s):

Antipodes groundsel

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Antipodes Islands only

Habitat:

Coastal to upland (0 - 330 m a.s.l.) where it nearly always found in the vicinity of seal haul outs and sea bird nesting grounds/colonies. Another indigenous plant whose ecology seems tied to guano enriched systems.

Features*:

Annual to short-lived, stout, grey-green to dark green, fleshy, erect perennial herb. Leaves mostly lanate when young, maturing glabrate or glabrous above, but remaining lanate beneath, base amplexicaul, cuneate; lamina 30-250 x 20-120 mm, dark grey-green, silvery-grey or dark green above, paler beneath, ovate to suborbicular, pinnately lobed to pinnatisect with many narrow to broad, lanceolate entire or deeply jagged-toothed segments. Uppermost leaves smaller, less divided, narrow-obovate, broadly tapering to base. Supplementary bracts and calycular bracteoles variable, 3-16, 1.5-8 mm long. Involucral bracts 13-20, 4-9 mm long, glabrate. Ray florets absent. Disc yellow, 5-15 mm diameter. Cypsela 2.0-3.0 mm long, dark brown to black-brown, narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblong-elliptic, narrowed to and often slightly constricted below apex, base cuneate; ribs broad, rounded with narrow u-shaped grooves, hairs very-short, papillate, mostly restricted to grooves with a very sparse covering sometimes present elsewhere. Pappus caducous, 5-7 mm long.

Flowering:

November - January

Fruiting:

December - March

Threats:

A narrow range endemic of restricted distribution. However common within its island habitat

***Attribution:**

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 11 November 2008. Description based on Webb et al. (1988) supplemented with information obtained from herbarium material.

References and further reading:

Webb CJ, Sykes WR, Garnock-Jones PJ 1988. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=681