



Wahlenbergia akaroa

Common Name(s):

Akaroa harebell

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Banks Peninsula

Habitat:

Coastal. Found mainly on steep cliffs where it grows in crevices, and also in associated shrubland, and rough pasture in places free from browsing animals.

Features*:

Radicant herb, stems branching from the base, somewhat fleshy and brittle, the upper 2/3 of the plant forming a many-flowered much branched multiple panicle. Leaves dark green, sessile, rather fleshy, oblong, obovate-spathulate, oblanceolate, lanceolate to linear, margins obscurely dentate to sharply serrate, more or less undulate, up to 40 × 15 mm. Flowers erect on slender pedicels 50-100 mm long, blue-violet, paler outside, sometimes white. Corolla 18-30 mm diameter, 10-15 mm long, subrotate, broad-petalled, tube saucer shaped, 1 × 5 to 1.5 × 6.0 mm, lobes curving up before spreading, broadly oblanceolate, acute, separate at base, touching or overlapping at widest point, 8 × 5 to 14 × 6 mm. Style thickened and blue at top. Calyx lobes glabrous, 2 × 1 to 4.0 × 1.5 mm, triangular, erect or spreading. Capsules glabrous, 5 × 3 to 6 × 4 mm, obconic with protruding valves. Seeds 0.5 mm long.

Flowering:

October - April

Fruiting:

November - April

Threats:

Accessible plants are at risk from browsing animals. Otherwise this species is abundant within its cliff habitat. It is only listed because it is a narrow range, naturally uncommon endemic.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 12 June 2007. Description from Petterson (1997).

References and further reading:

Petterson, J.A. 1997: Revision of the genus *Wahlenbergia* (Campanulaceae) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 35(1): 9-54.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=699



Caption: Ex cult Percy Scenic.
December

Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft



Caption: Close up of flowers, ex cult
Percy Scenic. December

Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft