



Wahlenbergia pygmaea subsp. drucei

Common Name(s):

Mountain harebell, Egmont harebell

Current Threat Status (2009):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Mount Egmont, Taranaki

Habitat:

Montane to alpine. Inhabiting semi-consolidated volcanic grit, where it is usually a pioneer at the foot of a scree or similar bare eroded site. Also colonising white lichen beds (*Stereocaulon ramulosum*) at lower altitudes on consolidated gravel along the Stony River

Features*:

Perennial rhizomatous herb with rosulate tufts of leaves at ground level. Leaves bright green, glossy, glabrous or with a few scattered hairs, petiolate; lamina orbicular-spathulate, 10 × 3 to 20 × 5 mm. Leaf margin crenate-serrate, often undulate, teeth conspicuous. Flowers usually insect-pollinated, some forms self-fertile; erect or nodding on short upright scapes, 40-100 mm tall, which may be naked or 1-2-bracted. Corolla pale blue with creamy-white central band in each petal; up to 30 mm diameter, up to 18 mm long, broadly campanulate with tube as broad as or broader than long, lobes c.9 × 7 mm, spreading, broadly elliptic-lanceolate, acute. Calyx lobes c.3.0 × 1.5 mm, glabrous, narrow-triangular. Capsule c.10 × 6 mm, glabrous, domed cylindrical to plump barrel-shaped. Seeds ellipsoid, glossy brown.

Flowering:

November January

Fruiting:

December - February

Threats:

A Naturally Uncommon range-restricted endemic that is abundant within the montane to alpine areas of Mt Taranaki. There are no known threats.

***Attribution:**

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange 12 June 2007. Description adapted 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: 9-54.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=704