



## *Celmisia macmahonii* var. *macmahonii*

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

Macmahon's rock daisy, Mt Stokes daisy

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

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. South Island, Marlborough Sounds, confined to Mt Stokes and Macmahon.

### **Habitat:**

Shaded turf on rock ledges and cliff faces within silver beech (*Lophozonia menziesii*) forest.

### **Features\*:**

Perennial, silvery-green, creeping daisy forming compact cushions 10-50 cm diam. Leaves in dense rosettes, obovate-oblong, 20-35 x 6-8 mm, leathery, all parts invested in silvery appressed hairs, these drying yellow-brown to rust-red. Flowering stems 75-125 mm long, covered in floccose silvery hairs (these also drying yellow-brown to rust-red) and numerous, linear-subulate 20 mm long, more or less appressed bracts. Flower head 20-25 mm diam. Phyllaries (scales enclosing base of flower head) numerous, linear-subulate, 12 mm long, acute to acuminate, clad in long, silky silvery (drying yellow-brown) hairs. Ray florets white, numerous, 12-15 mm long, apex 3-toothed; disc-florets yellow, tubular, 5-7 mm long, flaring at toothed apex. Seeds (Achenes) compressed-cylindric, grooved, 2 mm long, ribs clad in ascending hairs. Pappus hairs white, 6 mm, barbellate.

### **Flowering:**

November - February

### **Fruiting:**

April - July

### **Threats:**

This species has been seriously threatened by feral goats which have from time to time spread into its only known habitat. Within the last decade goat control has reduced this threat but it remains an ongoing problem until such time as goats are completely eradicated from the region, or the habitat adequately fenced. This daisy has previously had a Nationally Critical threat assessment mainly because there were so few plants, occupying a very small area. Recent surveys and monitoring suggest that although uncommon the current population remains stable.

### **\*Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 January 2009. Description adapted from Allan (1961).

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

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

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

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=9](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=9)



**Caption:** Mt Stokes (February)

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth