

Olearia lineata

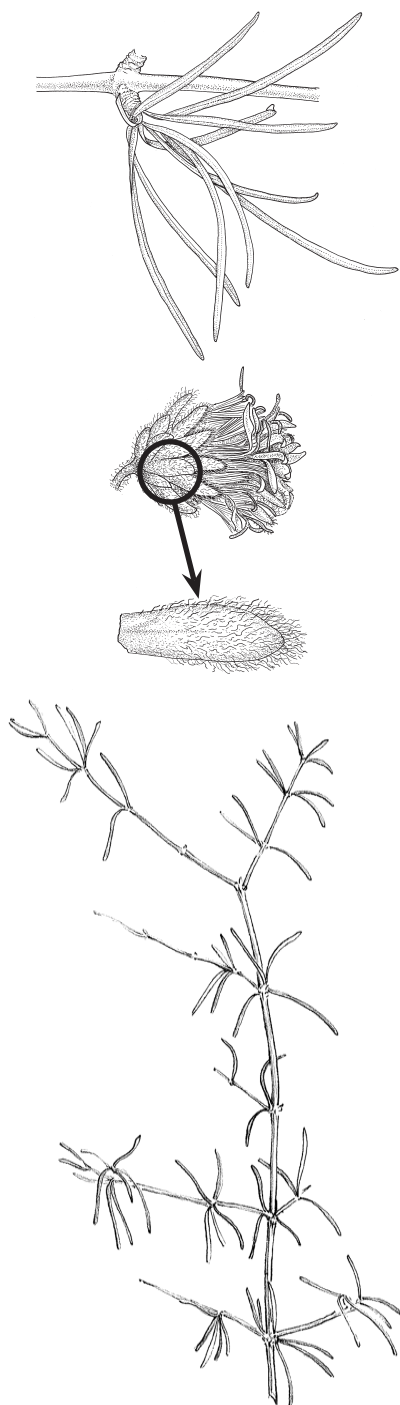
SMALL-LEAVED TREE DAISY

Olearia lineata is one of eight rare *Olearia* species included in the Small-leaved Tree Daisy National Recovery Plan. A separate fact sheet is available for each species. The aim of the factsheets is to encourage public awareness of these unique New Zealand species and to find compatible ways of managing the places where they exist. A first step towards this is to help people recognise the plants and take an interest in their welfare.

Description

Olearia lineata is a shrub or small tree up to 8 m tall. Trunks can reach 40 cm diameter, and the bark is lightly furrowed and fawn-grey. Branchlets are slender, flexible and often drooping, being four sided and usually fawn brown. Leaves are linear, 10-40 mm long and 1 mm wide and either opposite or in opposite clusters that give trees a wiry and wispy appearance. Flowers consist of small, creamy-coloured, scented ray florets and occur in November to January.

rock bluffs of surrounding hill slopes. It often occurs as isolated trees in unimproved pasture as the last vestige of former low hardwood forest of scrub in rainshadow South Island.



Sketches not to scale



Similar Plants

The long narrow leaves of *Olearia lineata* make it distinctly different from other rare *Olearia* species, but at a distance it does have a similar appearance to *Olearia bullata*.

Habitat

Olearia lineata occupies basin and valley floor alluvium, alluvial terraces, fans and flats and the steep gully sides and





Distribution

Olearia lineata is endemic to the South Island east of the main divide from Southland to North Canterbury and found locally in South and North Westland and on Stewart Island.

Population Size

No accurate census of sites has been made but the total population is likely to exceed 10,000 plants. While many sites are known, the largest populations consist of up to a few hundred plants. Its population structure is skewed towards larger adult plants with regeneration prevented by swards of exotic grasses.

National Threat status and Threats

Sparse. Threats include lack of knowledge of sites, habitat loss and fragmentation, lack of legally protected sites, animal browsing, weed invasion and fire.

How Can I help?

Learn to recognise the plant. Tell staff at the Department of Conservation if

you discover populations of the plant or suspect you have.

Explore ways to protect populations of the plant through covenanting, fencing weed control and supplementary planting.

Use locally sourced plants in gardens, shelterbelts and revegetation projects.

Further Information

For more information visit the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network web site: www.nzpcn.org.nz

DOC Contacts

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