

Brachyglottis elaeagnifolia

SYNONYMS

Senecio elaeagnifolius Hook.f.

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis elaeagnifolia (Hook.f.) B.Nord.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BRAELA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Leathery bushy subalpine small tree. Leaves leathery, oval, dark green, fuzzy brown underneath. Twigs furry, grooved. Bark of loose thin flakes. Flowers a white furry body with a yellowish-orange tip in loose clusters at tips of twigs.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands. Widespread in the North Island mountains, including Mount Taranaki; in the South Island mostly found in mountainous areas north and west of the main divide.

HABITAT

Upper montane forest and scrub.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).



At Mt Taranaki, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Mt Taranaki January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub up to 3 (-5) m tall. Branches grooved; branchlets, petioles and inflorescence-branchlets clad in pale buff to whitish woolly tomentum. Leaves 60-90 × 30-50 mm, on grooved petioles up to 50 mm long; coriaceous, obovate to lanceolate-oblong, obtuse; glabrous and shining above with evident veins, clad in buff to whitish silvery appressed tomentum below. Panicle sub-pyramidal to sub-racemose, up to 150 mm long; capitula campanulate to sub-cylindric, discoid, up to 10 mm diameter, on stout woolly-tomentose pedicels; phyllaries coriaceous, oblong, obtuse, densely woolly tomentose on back (usually tan to brownish-orange). Female flower 0-3, disk-florets numerous. Achenes 1-2 mm long, angled, oblong, rough-pubescent to nearly glabrous; pappus-hairs stiff, sordid-white, up to 5 mm long, barbellate, especially towards tips.

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar to *B. buchananii*, which has leaves that are a different shape (elliptic, narrowed towards apex and base); more open inflorescence panicle (laxly branched), which is usually larger (250 mm).

FLOWERING

December-February

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

December-February

ETYMOLOGY

brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning “short” and glottis meaning “the vocal apparatus of the larynx”

elaeagnifolia: Eleagnus leaf

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 755.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-elaeagnifolia/>