

Celmisia angustifolia

COMMON NAME

strap-leaved daisy

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Celmisia angustifolia Cockayne

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

CELANG

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: Easterly from south Marlborough to Otago

HABITAT

Montane to alpine in grassland, fell field and at the base of stable talus and scree slopes

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small subshrub with woody, often multicapital, stock; branches close-set, clad in persistent, imbricate leaf-remnants; living leaves rosulate at tips of branchlets. Lamina coriaceous, not or only slightly viscid, 25-50 × 2-6 mm, linear to linear-spathulate; upper surface clad in thin ± deciduous pellicle; lower in appressed somewhat soft to satiny white tomentum; midrib pale, usually evident; apex obtuse to subacute; margins entire or minutely denticulate. Base suddenly expanded into sheath ± 15 × 5-6 mm, glabrous, translucent, longitudinal veins fine. Scape slender, viscid, up to c. 150 mm long; bracts linear-subulate, remote, lower with lamina c.20 mm long. Capitula 20-40 mm diameter. Involucral bracts c.10 mm. long, linear-lanceolate, indurated towards base and pale brown, with very prominent midrib; upper half thin, floccose on margins and ± viscid. Ray-florets c.16 mm long, white, linear, ± glandular, limb much recurved when dry, apex 3-4-toothed. Disk-florets c.6 mm long, very narrow-funnelform, teeth c.1 mm long, ovate-triangular. Achenes c.3 mm long, cylindric, ribs densely clad in rather long ascending silky hairs. Pappus-hairs up to c.5 mm long, white, slender, very finely barbellate.



Pisa range, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



East Ahuriri. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to *Celmisia viscosa* from which it differs by the scarcely ribbed, smaller leaves (25-50 × 2-6 mm cf. 60-150 × 6-9 mm) which are not or only slightly viscid.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

November - April

LIFE CYCLE

Pappate cypselae are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Unknown. Probably best grown from fresh seed and like many *Celmisia* this species will probably dislike high humidity and drying out

ETYMOLOGY

celmisia: Apparently named after Kelmis, one of Idaean Dactyls, a group of skilled mythical beings associated with the Mother Goddess Rhea in Greek mythology. Kelmis, whose name means 'casting', was a blacksmith and childhood friend of Zeus, son of Rhea and later king of the gods. In Ovid's 'Metamorphoses', Kelmis is described as offending Zeus who turned him into adamant so he was as hard as a tempered blade

angustifolia: From the Latin *angustus* 'narrow, constricted' and *folius* 'leaf', meaning narrow-leaved

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

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

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-angustifolia/>