

# Celmisia dallii

## COMMON NAME

Dall's mountain daisy

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

Celmisia dallii Buchanan

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

CELDAL

## 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: Westerly, and mostly present in the mountains of North-West Nelson extending south to about Westport.

## HABITAT

Montane to subalpine grassland, herbfield. Often on calcareous rocks and soils derived from these.



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



Near Balloon Hut, Kahurangi National Park. Photographer: Gillian M. Crowcroft, Date taken: 01/01/1998, Licence: All rights reserved.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Robust tufted, somewhat viscid herb arising from usually simple, rarely multicapital stock up to 800 mm long, pseudo-stem 600-700 mm long. Lamina 80-200 × 30-50 mm, obovate-oblong to obovate-lanceolate, coriaceous, subacute to obtuse, usually apiculate; upper surface glabrous bright to dark green, midrib and main veins evident; lower densely clad in appressed satiny white to pale buff tomentum, midrib stout, grooved, main veins evident through tomentum. Margins slightly upturned, sharply minutely toothed, narrowed to base, then suddenly widened to thinly coriaceous, glabrous, prominently ribbed sheath 40-50 × 18-22 mm. Scape stout, ± flattened, strongly ribbed, 150-450 mm long. Bracts usually numerous, foliaceous, tomentum as in leaves, lower 25-50 × 6-12 mm; uppermost forming a pseudo-involucre. Capitula 35-70 mm diameter. Involucral bracts, ± viscid, 2-seriate, outer ovate-oblong, foliaceous, similar to upper bracts; inner ± 12 × 2 mm, membranous, viscid, ciliate. Ray-florets numerous, c.15 mm. long, white, tube slender, limb narrow, gradually widening to 3-4-toothed apex. Disk-florets narrow-tubular to narrow-funnelform, c.7 mm long, teeth triangular. Anthers distinctly tailed. Achenes compressed narrow-cylindric, 2-4 mm long, pilose on rather weak ribs. Pappus-hairs slender, up to c.7 mm long, minutely barbellate.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to *Celmisia hieraciifolia* and *C. holosericea* species with which *C. dallii* shares a finely denticulate leaf margin that is not obscured by indumentum. From *C. holosericea* and *C. hieraciifolia*, *C. dallii* is distinguished by its much larger overall size, and scapes which bear leaf-like (foliaceous) bracts

## FLOWERING

November - February

## FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

## FRUITING

December - April

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Best grown from fresh seed. Can be grown by dividing established plants. Does best in a shaded site planted within a permanently moist, free draining soil. As a rule difficult to maintain.

## 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

## WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from specialist native plant nurseries.

## ATTRIBUTION

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

## MORE INFORMATION

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