

Celmisia haastii var. tomentosa

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Celmisia haastii var. *tomentosa* G.Simpson et J.S.Thomson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island. Otago, Rock & Pillar Range

HABITAT

Alpine. On the margins of flushes and within seepages below snow banks.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

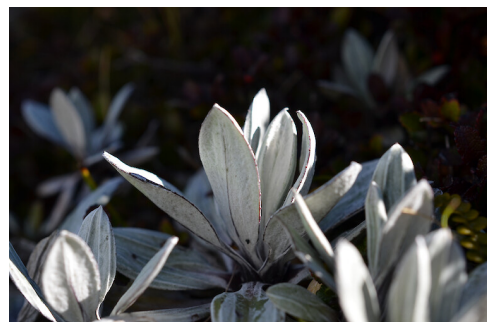
Rather stout low-growing branching whitish-green subshrub forming small to large patches; branchlets ascending to erect, lower parts covered by leaf remnants, upper part obscured by rosette-leaves. Lamina 25–80 × 10–28 mm, broadly elliptic-oblong to obovate-spathulate, subcoriaceous to coriaceous; upper surface, usually longitudinally furrowed, white clad in chartaceous tomentum, this peeling with age as a pellicle; lower surface clad in closely appressed ± satiny tomentum, midrib tomentose but ± evident; apex obtuse to subacute; margins slightly recurved, very minutely distantly denticulate, cuneately narrowed to winged petiole c. 5 mm long. Sheath delicate, pale yellowish green, ± 20–30 × 5 mm; veins evident. Scape c. 50–150 mm long, densely tomentose to almost glabrous, rather stout to slender; bracts several or numerous, linear-subulate, acute to subacute, up to c. 2 mm long or more. Capitula 25–40 mm diameter; involucre bracts linear-lanceolate, membranous, softly hairy without, up to c. 12 mm long. Ray florets 15–20 mm long; limb narrow-oblong to narrow obovate-oblong, 3–5 toothed. Disk-florets funnelform, shortly 5-toothed, 6–8 mm long. Achenes narrow-cylindric, glabrous, 3–4 mm long. Pappus-hairs up to 5–6 mm long, very finely barbellate

SIMILAR TAXA

Differs from *Celmisia haastii* var. *haastii* by the whitish-green coloured leaves, whose upper surface is finely clad in short, stiff hairs. As the leaf matures these peel off as a pellicle.



Rock and Pillar Range; abaxial leaf.
Photographer: Jane Gosden, Date taken:
20/04/2014, Licence: CC BY-NC-SA.



Rock and Pillar Range. Photographer: Jane
Gosden, Date taken: 20/04/2014, Licence: CC
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FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

December - March

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Best grown from fresh seed. Dislikes humidity.

THREATS

Not Threatened - but as an apparently narrow range endemic it probably should be listed as Naturally Uncommon.

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

haastii: Honours the New Zealand geologist and botanist Sir Julius von Haast (1822-87)

Where To Buy

Not Commercially Available.

Cultural Use/Importance

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

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-haastii-var-tomentosa/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-haastii-var-tomentosa/>