

Leptinella goyenii

COMMON NAME

Goyen's button daisy

SYNONYMS

Cotula goyenii Petrie, *C. goyenii* Petrie var. *goyenii*, *Cotula goyenii* var. *pinnatisecta* Kirk

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Leptinella goyenii (Petrie) D.G.Lloyd et C.J.Webb

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

LEPGOY

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 52

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island from Central Otago east to Fiordland.

HABITAT

Alpine (> 1300 m a.s.l.), usually amongst rocks, on cliff faces or in fell field, and on gently sloping, rock strewn ridge summits



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



Old Woman Range. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Woody, gynodioecious, perennial herb forming compact mats up to 30 mm thick in patches up to 1 m wide. Rhizomes densely packed together, crowded, more or less horizontal and ascending at tips, completely obscured by leaves; branches single or in 2-3-clustered and diverging aggregates, usually spaced at 5-30 mm intervals; living leaves densely imbricate on the upper 5 mm of stem; lower parts covered with dead persistent leaves. Short shoots absent. Roots arising from basal parts of stems, slender but firm, more or less woody up to 5 mm diameter. Leaves sessile, palmately divided, curved around stem, 4-6 x 4-5 mm; blade 3 mm long, dark green, falcate, firmly coriaceous, with scattered short eglandular hairs; margins lobed up to 7 times, these linear, subteret, acute to acuminate, cut to top of broad leaf base. Peduncles more or less equal to or > leaf length, up to 70 mm long, ebracteate or with 1 small bract, pilose hairy. Capitula not or just emergent from mat surface, 2-4 mm diameter; surface convex; involucre hemispherical; involucral bracts subequally biseriate, elliptic or oblong, membranous, dark-green with a wide, pale keeled midrib, glabrous with broad scarious margins. Pistillate capitula with 10-15 involucral bracts and 20-45 florets; florets 2.25 mm long, straight, yellow-red, corolla twice as long as wide, dentition equal. Staminate capitula with 8-12 involucral bracts, 0-8 pistillate florets and 10-35 staminate. Cypsela 1.3 x 0.65 mm, golden-brown, glossy, compressed, smooth or slightly wrinkled.

SIMILAR TAXA

The stout woody stems, mat forming habit and imbricate palmatifid leaves are unique to this species and set it apart from any other in the genus.

FLOWERING

November - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Yellow

FRUITING

December - April

LIFE CYCLE

Papery cypselae are dispersed by wind and possibly attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

ETYMOLOGY

leptinella: From the Greek word leptos (meaning slender, thin or delicate), referring to the ovary

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 31 August 2006. Description from Lloyd (1972) - as *Cotula goyenii*.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Lloyd, D.G. 1972: A revision of the New Zealand, Subantarctic, and South American species of *Cotula*, section *Leptinella*. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 10: 277-372.

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* 11: 285-309

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/leptinella-goyenii/>