

# Pimelea concinna

## COMMON NAME

pimelea

## FAMILY

Thymelaeaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Pimelea concinna* Allan

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

PIMCON

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DP

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Low shrub to 80cm tall with hairy twigs bearing pairs of hairy oval leaves, hairy white flowers and red fruit inhabiting dry valleys around Marlborough. Leaves 5-8mm long by 2.5-5mm wide, broadly pointed.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: Inland Nelson, Marlborough and North Canterbury (extending just into the Waiau-uha catchment)

## HABITAT

Lowland to montane. Inhabiting dry, rocky hillsides with short grassland and scrub.



Clarence Valley, Molesworth Station.  
Photographer: Alex Fergus, Date taken:  
15/12/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.



*Pimelea concinna*, Ward Pass, Marlborough.  
Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken:  
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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

An erect much-branched shrub up to 0.8 m tall and 500-60 mm wide. Branching mainly sympodial and semi-fastigiate. Young branchlets densely covered in appressed white hairs; internodes 1-2mm long. Older stems glabrate, darker brown to black. Node buttresses small (0.3mm long) lunate, masked by hairs on young branchlets, not prominent on leafless stems. Leaves decussate, ascending, loosely imbricate, on very short petioles (0.3 mm) or sessile. Lamina broad elliptic or broad ovate, 5.0-8.0 × 2.5-5.0 mm, densely covered on both surfaces with appressed, short, white hairs, adaxially concave, mid-vein obscure, acute, base cuneate. Stomata on both adaxial and abaxial surfaces. Inflorescences terminal, 5-10-flowered, sometimes in small groups. Receptacle with dense, short hairs. Involucral bracts 4, larger than adjacent leaves (to 7 × 3 mm). Plants gynodioecious. Flowers white, scented, on short (0.2 mm) pedicels, very hairy outside, internally glabrate. Female tube 3.5 mm long, ovary portion 2 mm, calyx lobes 1.2 × 1.2 mm; hermaphrodite tube 6 mm long, ovary portion 2 mm, calyx lobes 3.0 × 1.5 mm. Anther dehiscence introrse. Ovary with a tuft of hairs at summit. Fruits fleshy, (white) or red, ovoid 4.2 × 3.5 mm. Seeds 2.5 × 1.7 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Pimelea concinna* is endemic to the north-eastern South Island within which area is easily recognised by its upright growth habit (reaching up to 0.8 m tall) and red fruits. Within that area it could only be confused with *Pimelea aridula* subsp. *olga*, which is superficially similar but has longer, and narrower leaves (6-15 × 2-3 mm cf. 5.0-8.0 × 2.5-5.0 mm in *P. concinna*), which are less distinctly hairy, and with the hairs are notably longer. *Pimelea aridula* subsp. *olga* has dry brown fruits while those of *P. concinna* are fleshy and coloured red

## FLOWERING

October - January

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

December - May

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from semi-hardwood cuttings. Does best in a free draining, sunny site, planted within a rich, fertile soil. Dislikes competition from taller plants and humidity. Will not long tolerate being shaded out. An excellent pot plant or small shrub for a rockery.

## THREATS

*Pimelea concinna* is not listed by de Lange et al. (2011). Burrows (2011) also concludes that the while species is not as yet threatened it is "declining" through land development, with topdressing, oversowing, burning and beef cattle grazing, it is moderately abundant, still, in undeveloped areas, particularly on very rocky hillsides. The threat status of *Pimelea concinna* may need to be re-evaluated

## ETYMOLOGY

**pimelea**: *Pimeleoides* means "resembling *Pimelea*", a genus in the family Thymelaeaceae (Greek, -oides = resembling, like).

**concinna**: Charming, elegant

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (4 October 2011). Description based on Burrows (2011)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Burrows, C.J. 2011: Genus *Pimelea* (Thymelaeaceae) in New Zealand 5. The taxonomic treatment of five endemic species with both adaxial and abaxial leaf hair. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 49: 367-412.

de Lange, P.J.; Norton, D.A.; Courtney, S.P.; Heenan, P.B.; Barkla, J.W.; Cameron, E.K.; Hitchmough, R.; Townsend, A.J. 2009: Threatened and uncommon plants of New Zealand (2008 revision). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 47: 61-96.

### **NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION**

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Pimelea concinna* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pimelea-concinna/> (Date website was queried)

### **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pimelea-concinna/>