

Raoulia cinerea

SYNONYMS

None (first described in 1913)

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Raoulia cinerea Petrie

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

RAOCIN

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, mountains at the head of the Awatere River.

HABITAT

Alpine in loose shingle, scree and sparsely vegetated rock pavement and fellfield.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stock rather woody, stems rather closely branched, branchlets ascending, forming flat patches. Leaves closely imbricate, 3-nerved, ascending, incurved at tips, 5–7 mm long, linear, acuminate; basal portion membranous, c.1 mm wide, clad in loose tomentum; apical portion densely clad in appressed white tomentum, margins slightly revolute. Capitula up to 5 mm diameter; inner involucre bracts linear-lanceolate, acute, scarious, yellowish; apices pale brown, more or less pilose on back. Achenes hardly 1 mm long, narrow-oblong, glabrous to puberulous; pappus-hairs up to 5 mm long—some flattened towards base, others terete, all slender, not or hardly thickened at apex.

FLOWERING

December – January

FRUITING

January – March

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild.



Close up on Mt Barefell (January).

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



Summit of Mt Barefell. Photographer: Gillian M. Crowcroft, Licence: All rights reserved.

THREATS

A local, narrow range endemic, but common within its preferred habitat.

ETYMOLOGY

raoulia: Named after Étienne Fiacre Louis Raoul (23 July 1815–30 March 1852) who was a French naval surgeon and naturalist. He published a book *Choix de plantes de la Nouvelle-Zélande* (“Selected plants of New Zealand”) in 1846. The genus was named after him by Joseph Hooker.

cinerea: Ash-grey

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan H.H. 1961: *Flora of New Zealand. Volume I*. Government Printer, Wellington.

Manaaki Whenua/Landcare Research 2022: eFlora webpage for *Raoulia cinerea*.

<https://www.nzflora.info/factsheet/Taxon/Raoulia-cinerea.html>. Date accessed: 16 April 2022.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/raoulia-cinerea/>