

# Selliera rotundifolia

## COMMON NAME

Selliera

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Goodeniaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Selliera rotundifolia* Heenan

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

SELROT

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 16

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: RR

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Declining

2004 | Gradual Decline

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (westerly from about Whanganui south to Paekakariki).

## HABITAT

In dune fields where it grows in seasonally damp swales (depressions), occasionally found along the margins of slow flowing tidal streams.



At Waikawa dunes. Nov 2004. Photographer: Barbara Mitcalfe, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Hokio Beach, sand flat. Jan 1996. Photographer: Peter B. Heenan, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Rhizomatous, mat-forming herb, forming dense patches up to 700 mm diam., or diffuse patches when trailing through other vegetation. Stems 1-2 mm diam. Petiole 3-7(-17) x 0.5-1 mm, distinct from leaf. Leaves dark green, glabrous, alternate, appressed to ground, lamina 3-7 x 3-5 mm, rotund, orbicular, leathery, entire, apex obtuse, base obtuse. Flowers single, arising in leaf axils. Pedicel 3-9 mm, glabrous, green to red-green, erect or spreading; bracts 1.5-2 x 0.7-0.9 mm, lanceolate, falcate, green, erect. Sepals 1-1.4 x 0.7-0.9 mm, narrow-triangular, distal part flushed red, apex subacute. Corolla 7-8 x 8-9 mm, 5 petals fused in proximal part, inner surface white, outer pale red. Petals 3-4 x 1.5-2 mm, lanceolate, falcate. Ovary 1.4-1.6 mm, green, glabrous. Style purple-red, stigma glabrous, orange brown. Stamens 3, orange-brown. Fruit 2-3 x 2-3 mm, ovoid, green. Seeds 1.5 x 1 mm, cream-white, compressed.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from the allied *S. microphlla* and *S. radicans* by the distinctive, small, rounded to completely orbicular leaves.

## FLOWERING

December - February

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## FRUITING

January - May

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from the division of whole plants. An excellent ground cover for sunny, well drained or water logged soils.

## THREATS

This species is threatened throughout its range by the spread of faster growing and taller weed species which are rapidly modifying the damp, dune swale and estuarine habitats this species favours.

## ETYMOLOGY

**selliera**: After Sellier

**rotundifolia**: Round leaf; from the Latin rotundus and folium

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 18 June 2006. Description adapted from Heenan (1997).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Duguid, F. 1985. *Selliera radicans* with regular corolla. Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin, 42: 84

Heenan, P. B. 1997: *Selliera rotundifolia* (Goodeniaceae), a new, round-leaved, species from New Zealand. New Zealand Journal of Botany 35(2): 133-138

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/selliera-rotundifolia/>