

Veronica hookeriana

COMMON NAME

Hooker's speedwell, Hooker's parahebe

SYNONYMS

Veronica olsenii Colenso, *Parahebe hookeriana* (Walp.) W.R.B.Oliv.,
Parahebe hookeriana (Walp.) W.R.B.Oliv. var. *hookeriana*, *Parahebe hookeriana* var. *olsenii* (Colenso) Ashwin

FAMILY

Plantaginaceae

AUTHORITY

Veronica hookeriana Walp.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

PARHOO

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

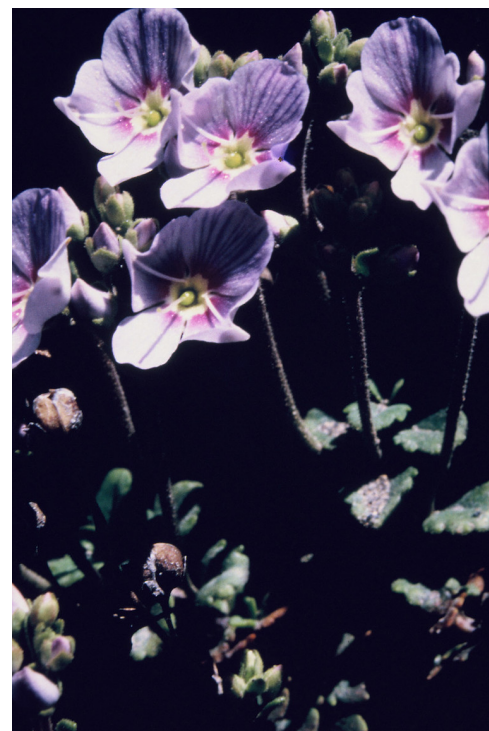
Endemic. New Zealand: North Island: (Raukumara, Huiarau, Kaimanawa, Maungaharuru)

HABITAT

Subalpine to alpine. In open sites such as scree, fellfield, banks, rock outcrops and lava fields



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



Ruapehu. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Low subshrub, loose cushion or mat-forming subshrub to 200 mm tall. Stems brown, red-brown or grey. Branches prostrate to ascending. Branchlets brown, red-brown, green or purplish. Vegetative internodes 2–20 mm long. Leaves erecto-patent to reflexed. Lamina lanceolate, oblanceolate, ovate, obovate, oblong, elliptic, orbicular or rhomboid, 3.0–14.0 × 2.5–10.0 mm, upper surface dull green, bronze green or dark green, under surface pale green, dull. Leaf hairs sparse, numerous or absent. Apex subacute, obtuse or rounded. Base cuneate. Margin glabrous, ciliate, glandular-ciliate or pubescent, bluntly crenate to serrate. Marginal teeth or lobes in 1–4 pairs. Petiole 1–3 mm long. Inflorescence racemose, unbranched, 3–15-flowered. Peduncle 15–60 mm long, eglandular-pubescent, glandular-pubescent or mixed. Rachis 10–70 mm long, eglandular-pubescent, glandular-pubescent or mixed. Bracts alternate, obtuse to acute, eglandular-hairy above or ciliate, lanceolate to elliptic or narrowly deltoid. Bract margins entire. Pedicels erecto-patent at anthesis, straight or incurved at fruiting, 3–18 mm long, eglandular-pubescent to glandular-pubescent. Flowers: Calyx 4-lobed, 2–3 mm long; lobes elliptic to ovate, subacute to obtuse, margins entire. Calyx hairs on margins only or on both under and upper surfaces. Corolla pink, violet, or mauve at anthesis. Nectar guides evident, present on posterior and lateral corolla lobes or on all corolla lobes. Colour ring and nectar guides magenta. Corolla throat yellow. Corolla 6–15 mm diameter. Corolla tube 1.0–1.5 × 1.0–1.5 mm wide, shortly hairy inside. Corolla lobes glabrous. Posterior corolla lobe circular, elliptic or rhomboid, usually obtuse or rarely emarginate, 5–7 × 4.6–6.0 mm. Lateral corolla lobes elliptic, obtuse, longitudinally folded around stamens, 4.5–6.5 × 4.5–8.0 mm. Anterior corolla lobe elliptic or oblong or rhomboid, obtuse, 4–6 × 2–4 mm. Stamen filaments white or coloured, 4–6 mm long. Anthers pink, magenta or violet, 1.0–1.2 mm long. Nectarial disc ciliolate. Ovary ovoid, globose or ellipsoid, obtuse or emarginate, glabrous or sparsely puberulent, 1.0–1.5 mm long. Style 4.0–5.5 mm long. Capsules weakly flattened, truncate to emarginate, 3–6 × 3–5 mm, glabrous. Septicidal split extending to base. Loculicidal split extending ½ way to base. Seeds ellipsoid, obovoid, discoid, pale brown, dark brown or brown, 1.0–3.0 × 0.6–1.3 mm

SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished by the long, eglandular and sometimes glandular leaf hairs; by the leaf marginal teeth in 1–4 pairs; by the mauve corolla with mauve or magenta nectar guides; glabrous capsules, and 1–3 mm long seeds.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

FRUITING

November - May

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from cuttings, rooted pieces and fresh seed.

ETYMOLOGY

veronica: Named after Saint Veronica, who gave Jesus her veil to wipe his brow as he carried the cross through Jerusalem, perhaps because the common name of this plant is 'speedwell'. The name Veronica is often believed to derive from the Latin vera 'truth' and iconica 'image', but it is actually derived from the Macedonian name Berenice which means 'bearer of victory'.

hookeriana: Named after Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker (born 1817) - a world famous botanist who travelled on the Antarctic expedition of 1839 under the command of Sir James Ross and wrote "Handbook of New Zealand Flora" published in 1864–67 describing many specimens sent to Kew by collectors. He died in 1911 and has a memorial stone at Westminster Abbey London.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet by P.J. de Lange (5 October 2006). Description adapted from Garnock-Jones and Lloyd (2003).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Garnock-Jones, P.J.; Lloyd, D.G. 2003: A taxonomic revision of *Parahebe* (Plantaginaceae) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 181–232

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/veronica-hookeriana/>