

Brachyglottis rotundifolia var. ambigua

SYNONYMS

Senecio rotundifolia var. ambigua Cheeseman, Senecio reinoldii var. ambiguus (Cheeseman) Allan

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis rotundifolia var. ambigua (Cheeseman) B.Nord.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BRARVA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Large leathery shrub inhabiting coastal shrub in the central West Coast. Leaves leathery, 4–10cm long, widest part of leaf towards tip, dark green and glossy, whiteish underneath. Flowers a white furry body with a yellowish tip in loose leafy clusters at tips of twigs.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island. Westland: Cape Foulwind to Barrytown.

HABITAT

Coastal banks and scrub, inland low scrubland.



DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub or tree up to 3 m or more tall. Branches, stout, grooved; branchlets and inflorescence-branchlets clad in dense pale buff to whitish tomentum. Leaves less coriaceous, entire, broadly obovate to elliptic-oblong, midrib and main veins prominent below; glabrous above, clad in dense appressed tomentum below; lamina 70–150 x 30–60 mm on stout grooved petiole up to 50 mm long. Panicles up to 200 mm long, lower bracts foliaceous. Capitula campanulate, up to 10 mm diameter, discoid, on stout tomentose pedicels. Phyllaries linear, obtuse, coriaceous, woolly-tomentose on back. Female flowers few, disk-florets numerous. Achenes angled, 2.5 mm long, linear-oblong, glabrous or with sparse hispid hairs; pappus-hairs up to 6 mm long, rigid, barbellate.

SIMILAR TAXA

Brachyglottis rotundifolia var. *rotundifolia* which is a shrub to tree up to 6 m; has leaves which are obliquely broadly oblong to suborbicular (40–100 × 40–90 mm) and very coriaceous; and only found in the southern South Island, Stewart and Solander Islands.

FLOWERING

December–January

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

January–February

ETYMOLOGY

brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning “short” and glottis meaning “the vocal apparatus of the larynx”

rotundifolia: Round leaf; from the Latin rotundus and folium

ambigua: From the Latin ambiguus ‘ambiguous, uncertain’

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pp 754–755.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-rotundifolia-var-ambigua/>