

# Celmisia ramulosa var. ramulosa

## COMMON NAME

mountain daisy

## SYNONYMS

None (first described in 1864)

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Celmisia ramulosa* Hook.f. var. *ramulosa*

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

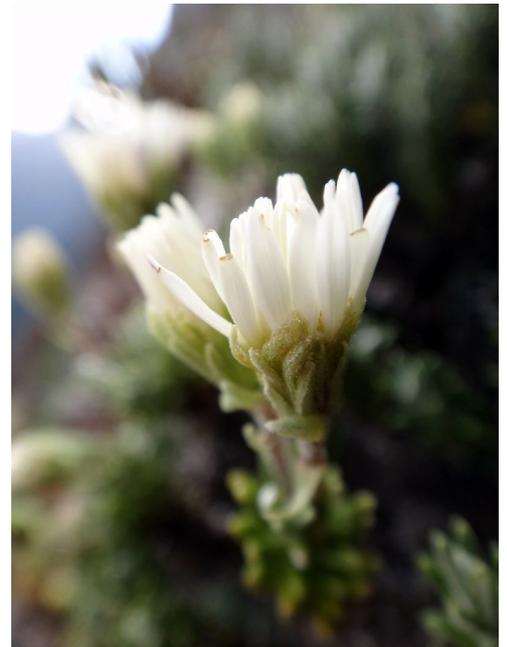
Endemic. South Island: Otago, Southland and Fiordland.

## HABITAT

Upper montane to subalpine rocky places and fellfield



Gertrude Saddle. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



Hunter Mountains, Fiordland. Photographer: Jesse Bythell, Date taken: 19/12/2012, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small shrub or subshrub with rather stout procumbent to ascending branched woody stems up to c.20 mm long; branchlets stiff, rather close-set, more or less 50 mm long. Leaves densely imbricate, erect, finally reflexed. Lamina c.5.0-10.0 × 1.5-2.0 mm, linear-oblong to subulate, coriaceous; upper surface glabrous or nearly so, pale green; lower surface densely clad in soft white tomentum obscuring midrib; margins strongly revolute; apex obtuse, more or less trigonous-cucullate; base passing into broad pale membranous glabrous sheath more or less = lamina, with distinct midrib. Scape c.10-40 mm long, slender, densely glandular-pubescent; bracts few, more or less 5 mm long, linear. Capitula 20-25 mm diameter; involucre bracts c.5 mm long, linear-oblong, acute to subacute, densely glandular-pubescent. Ray-florets narrow, disk-florets narrow-tubular, c.5 mm long. Achenes c.3-4 mm long, narrow-cylindric, obscurely ribbed, with a few hairs. Pappus-hairs fine, white to sordid-white, up to c.4 mm long, very minutely barbellate

## SIMILAR TAXA

One of a small group of subshrub *Celmisia* which includes *C. brevifolia*, *C. gibbsii*, *C. rupestris*, *C. lateralis* and *C. walkeri*. From these species *C. ramulosa* is distinguished by the scape which is 100-400 mm long; by the lamina which is 5.0-10.0 × 1.5-2.0 mm, and by the leaf undersides which is clad in soft white tomentum. *Celmisia ramulosa* var. *tuberculata* differs from var. *ramulosa* by the leaf margin which is distinctly papillate-hairy rather than entire and glabrous

## FLOWERING

November - February

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

January - May

## LIFE CYCLE

Pappate cypselae are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild

## ETYMOLOGY

**celmisia:** Apparently named after Kelmis, one of Idaean Dactyls, a group of skilled mythical beings associated with the Mother Goddess Rhea in Greek mythology. Kelmis, whose name means 'casting', was a blacksmith and childhood friend of Zeus, son of Rhea and later king of the gods. In Ovid's 'Metamorphoses', Kelmis is described as offending Zeus who turned him into adamant so he was as hard as a tempered blade

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-ramulosa-var-ramulosa/>