Haastia pulvinaris var. minor

COMMON NAME

vegetable sheep

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Haastia pulvinaris var. minor Laing

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular - Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

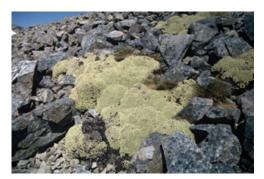
PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk - Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

2004 | Range Restricted

PLANT CONSERVATION AND WASHINGTON



Robert Ridge, Nelson Lakes. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Misery Tarn, Branch River. Photographer: Simon Moore, Licence: CC BY-SA.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: Nelson, Marlborough to Otago (mostly east of the main divide).

HABITAT

Subalpine and alpine fellfield and rocks among screes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout perennial forming rounded very compact masses up to 1 x 1 m diameter (usually much less); branchlets with leaves < 15 mm diameter, densely compacted. Leaves $c.6-8 \times 4-9$ mm; apices thickened and crenulate and concealed by dense brush of long tangled whitish hairs, both surfaces or underside only clad in long hairs; veins 3-15, anastomosing above. Receptacle flat or slightly convex, c.5 mm diameter. Involucral bracts linear, obtuse to acute, glabrous except at apices. Achenes compressed, linear, c.2 mm long. Pappus-hairs scarcely thickened, up to 9 mm long, strongly barbellate (especially near apices)

SIMILAR TAXA

Haastia pulvinaris var. minor is distinguished from var. pulvinaris by its much smaller size (only rarely forming hummocks up to 1 x 1 m), branchlets < 15 mm diameter, and by the distinctly whitish tomentum. Both varieties are occasionally sympatric and may perhaps be better treated as species. Both varieties of Haastia pulvinaris could be confused with species of Raoulia, especially R. bryoides, R. eximia and R. mammillaris, with which they sometimes grow. From Raoulia, Haastia is distinguished by the anther-cells which are not tailed, and by the leaves which are > 10 mm long. Recent molecular data suggests that Haastia is very closely allied to Brachyglottis.

FLOWERING

November - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Orange, Yellow

FRUITING

December - February

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild.

THREATS

A naturally uncommon, sparsely distributed plant of high-elevation scree habitats. Although it is not threatened, it is rarely common at any particular place.

ETYMOLOGY

haastia: After Haast

pulvinaris: From the Latin pulvinar 'a cushion' and -aris 'resembling', meaning resembling a cushio i.e. convex or or

rather flattened **minor**: Smaller

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.

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/haastia-pulvinaris-var-minor/