Brachyglottis adamsii

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Not Threatened
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION
Grey bushy subalpine shrub bearing obvious clusters of yellow daisy flowers. Young growth sticky. Leaves grey, leathery, furry underneath, margins curved, on 1-2cm long stalk. Flowers 2cm wide, bright yellow, with yellow radiating petals.



Mt Peel, Nelson Lakes, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

FLOWER COLOURS
Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Much-branched shrub up to 1 m or more tall; viscid on young branchlets, leaves and inflorescence. Leaves close-set on branchlets; lamina 25-55 x 10-20 mm, coriaceous, glabrous and somewhat rugose above, clad below in dense white to pale buff appressed tomentum, elliptic to obovate-oblong, obtuse; margins entire, revolute; petiole 10-20 mm long, widened to persistent sheathing base. Inflorescence loosely subcorymbose on peduncle approximately 2-3 mm. diameter, with few foliaceous bracts. Capitula 5-15, up to 20 mm diameter; phyllaries narrow-oblong, subacute, ciliate on margins and with tuft of hairs at apex. Ray-florets 10-15; ligules yellow, spreading. Achenes 3.5 mm long, sub-compound, grooved, pubescent, becoming glabrous; pappus-hairs up to 6 mm. long, finely barbellate.

SIMILAR TAXA
Similar to *B. revoluta*, which is a smaller shrub (up to 0.5 m high); leaves are larger (33-60×20-30 mm), less sticky, and thinner; geographically only co-existing in the deep south (not present in North Island).

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. North and South Islands from Mt Holdsworth south to the mountains of north Marlborough and Nelson.

HABITAT
Subalpine to alpine 1100-1600 m, shrubland and fellfield.

GENUS
Brachyglottis

FAMILY
Asteraceae

AUTHORITY
Brachyglottis adamsii (Cheeseman) B.Nord.

SYNONYMS
Senecio adamsii Cheeseman, Senecio pachyphyllus Cheeseman nom. illegit.

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
January-February

FRUITING
February-March

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Pappate achenes are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY
brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning “short” and glottis meaning “the vocal apparatus of the larynx”
adamsii: Named for James Adams (1839-1906) an exceptional amateur botanist who established the Thames High School. In 1906 he died suddenly whilst still the headmaster of the high school. He is buried in the Tararu Cemetery, Thames. James Adams was a friend of the first Auckland Museum Director Thomas Cheeseman whom he often accompanied in the field. Cheeseman commemorated Adams contributions to New Zealand Botany with the species Brachyglottis adamsii, Celmisia adamsii, and Trilepidea adamsii. His granddaughter was Jacqueline Nancy Adams (1926-2007) botanical illustrator, artist, botanist and phycologist whose name is also commemorated by a number of marine seaweeds.

NVS CODE
BRAADA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 60

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | Not Threatened
2012 | Not Threatened
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING
Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 749.
Mark, A. F. 2012. Above the Treeline: A Nature Guide to Alpine New Zealand. Craig Potton Publishing, Nelson. pg. 232.
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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

ATTRIBUTION
Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961) and Mark (2012).
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MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-adamsii/

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