

Brachyglottis hectorii

COMMON NAME

Hector's tree daisy

SYNONYMS

Senecio hectorii Buchanan

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis hectorii (Buchanan) B.Nord.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BRAHEC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Large shrub with conspicuous white daisy flowers of north-western South Island. Leaves with distinctive feathery base, crowded at top of twigs, thin, margin with small teeth. Flowers around 5 cm wide, with radiating white petals and a yellow centre, sticky, in large clusters.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island. North-west Nelson to Rapahoe Range in Westland.

HABITAT

Lowland to montane stream-sides and forest margins.

FEATURES

Shrub up to 4m tall. Branches stout, spreading, brittle, tomentose; leaves close-set towards tips of branchlets. Lamina 100–250 x 40–120 mm, membranous, broadly oblanceolate, more or less scaberulous above, thinly clad in cottony white tomentum below when young, coarsely acutely dentate serrate, pinnatifid to pinnate towards base and on short petiole up to 40 mm long; petiole clad in brownish hairs below. Corymbs large, terminal, lax, pedicels densely clad in stiff glandular pubescence. Capitula up to 50 mm diameter; phyllaries in two series, outer lanceolate, inner oblong-lanceolate, acute, margins membranous Ray-florets 8–12, ligules white, broad, spreading, approximately 20 mm long; achenes 4.5 mm long, linear, strongly grooved, glabrous; pappus-hairs up to 9 mm long, slender, rather rigid, finely barbellate.



Takaka hill, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Mt Burnett. Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft

FLOWERING

December - February (-June)

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

January - April (-July)

LIFE CYCLE

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"

hectorii: Named after Sir James Hector, 19th century New Zealand geologist and botanist who was originally from Scotland

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. pg. 747-748.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-hectorii/>