

Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior

COMMON NAMES

kohurangi, Kirk's tree daisy

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Fleshy small green shrub bearing large white daisy-like flowers. Twigs reddish-purple, brittle, with old leaf scars. Leaves narrow, shiny, fleshy, margin wavy. Flowers with long white radiating petals around a yellow centre, clustered together.

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub up to 3 m tall. Branches brittle. Leaves 50-120 x 10-20 mm, lanceolate- to narrow-oblong, entire to shallowly sinuate. Corymbs up to 300 mm diameter or more, lower bracts foliaceous; capitula campanulate, up to 50 mm diameter; phyllaries narrow-oblong, acute, membranous on margins. Ray-florets 2, with white spreading ligules 20-30 mm long. Achenes linear, approximately 6 mm long, finely grooved; pappus-hairs stiff, up to 9 mm long, minutely barbellate.

SIMILAR TAXA

Very similar to *Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *kirkii* which generally grows as an epiphyte; has a greater range geographically (locally found throughout North island); has shorter and wider leaves (40-100 x 20-40 mm) which are obviously toothed along margin; and generally, flowers later in the year (August-October).

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Confined to the North Island where it is known from about Te Puke and Ngaruawahia north to Te Pahi

HABITAT

Forest floor.

GENUS

Brachyglottis

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis kirkii var. *angustior* (Allan) C.J.Webb

SYNONYMS

Senecio kirkii var. *angustior* Allan, *Urostemon kirkii* var. *angustior* (Allan) B.Nord.



Trounson Kauri Park. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 17/07/2006, Licence: CC BY.



Close up of flowers, Long Bay, Coromandel, April. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Newhook (1943) drew attention to the existence of two forms but provided no formal description or varietal name. He pointed out that the narrow-leaved form is the only one known north of Kaitaia, that it is usually terrestrial, and that it flowers in autumn and early winter whereas the broad-leaved form in the same latitudes flowers in spring and summer. He suggested occasional hybridism between the two varieties.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

(January-) March - June

FRUITING

(February-) April - August

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”

kirkii: After Thomas Kirk (18 January 1828 - 8 March 1898), a NZ botanist and lecturer in natural sciences and regarded as a leader of botanical enquiry in NZ for over three decades. One of his most significant publications was Forest flora of NZ (1889) but he also contributed over 130 papers to the Transactions and Proceedings of the NZ Institute and other journals.

angustior: From the Latin word angustare meaning “to make narrow, confine”.

NVS CODE

BRAKVA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: DPR, DPS, DPT, PF, RR Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the “[Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland](#)” Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 748.

Newhook, F. J. 1942. 3. Variation in *Senecio kirkii* Hook. f. In Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New Zealand (Vol. 72, pp. 341-346).

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).

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-kirkii-var-angustior/>

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