

Brachyglottis sciadophila

COMMON NAMES

climbing groundsel

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Spawling to ascending vine with yellow daisy flower heads

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Slender, twining or tangling climber, often draped over host plant in a dense mass or creeping along ground. **Stems** up to 5m long, woody, slender and flexible, hairy when young, mature stems with papery peeling bark. **Leaves** 2-3cm wide, round or oval, thin and coarsely toothed, soft hairs on both surfaces. **Flowers** solitary yellow daisies.

SIMILAR TAXA

None, the only indigenous climbing daisy with yellow flowers.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. **North Island & South Island**, Southern central Hawke's Bay in North Island, and near Nelson, and then mostly East of the main ranges in the South Island.

HABITAT

Lowland, along forest margins or in alluvial forest.

THREATS

A sparsely distributed and generally uncommon species favouring riparian forest and/or disturbed forest margins. Often along roadsides. In some parts of its range it is only known from one or two plants. In many locations, specimens have not been observed to flower. The species is threatened in many locations by weeds, particularly competition from other climbing vines such as *Clematis vitalba* and even *Muehlenbeckia australis*. Some populations have been destroyed by forest clearance for plantation forestry and routine weed spraying of roadsides.

GENUS

Brachyglottis

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis sciadophila (Raoul) B.Nord.

SYNONYMS

Senecio sciadophila Raoul



In cultivation. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 12/03/2005, Licence: CC BY.



Okuti Valley. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

October to May

FRUITING

November to August

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from semi-hardwood cuttings and fresh seed but cultivated plants are prone to sudden collapse, especially following drought.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This plant has been featured as a Plant of the Month – see [Trilepidea: NZPCN newsletter for May 2012](#) for the full story.

ETYMOLOGY

brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning “short” and glottis meaning “the vocal apparatus of the larynx”

sciadophila: Gk. skia = shade; philean = to love; hence ‘shade loving

NVS CODE

BRASCI

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

2009 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Gradual Decline

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Endangered | Qualifiers: DPT, NR, NStr, PF, Sp Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the “[Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025](#)” Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 June 2013)

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-sciadophila/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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

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