

Brachyglottis stewartiae

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Large spreading grey-green shrub inhabiting coastal forest of southern South Island islands. Twigs brittle and bearing leaf scars. Leaves 7-18cm long, narrow, rolled, thin, shiny grey-green, whiteish underneath, margin wavy. Flowers 2cm wide with many radiating narrow yellow petals, clustered together.

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub or tree up to 6 m or more tall. **Branchlets**, spreading stout, clad in persistent leaf-bases. **Leaves** close-set, subcoriaceous, 70-180 x 20-40 mm, ovate to elliptic-lanceolate, acute to acuminate, narrowed to broad appressed base, glabrous above (dark green), clad below in appressed thin white tomentum; veinlets becoming evident and glabrous when old. Inflorescence terminal in short dense panicles; pedicels densely glandular-pubescent, upper bracts linear. **Capitula** up to 20 mm diameter; phyllaries narrow-oblong, obtuse, glandular-pubescent on backs. **Ray-florets** 10-15, ligules yellow, narrow, contorted. **Achenes** approximately 2 mm long, narrow-oblong, grooved, sparsely pubescent, becoming glabrous; pappus-hairs up to 5 mm. long, barbellate.

SIMILAR TAXA

Brachyglottis huntii, which has young leaves with fulvous tomentum on upper surface becoming almost glabrous with maturity giving a paler green appearance; generally smaller leaves (50-100 x 20-30 mm); flowers with more ray florets (15-20). Geographically these two species do not overlap (see that species' distribution).

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. **Stewart Island**, including Snares, Solander and Herekopare islets of the Foveaux Strait.

HABITAT

Sheltered coastal shrub forest. Prefers sheltered eastern slopes.

GENUS

Brachyglottis

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis stewartiae (J.B.Armstr.) B.Nord.

SYNONYMS

Senecio stewartiae J.B.Armstr., Senecio muelleri Kirk

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes



At Sub Antarctic Islands. Photographer: Chris Rance, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

December-February

FRUITING

January-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”

NVS CODE

BRASTE

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp, St

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Range Restricted

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan HH. 1961. Flora of New Zealand, Volume I. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Psilopsida, Lycopsida, Filicopsida, Gymnospermae, Dicotyledones. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 1085 p.

Hay CH, Warham J, & Fineran BA. 2004. The vegetation of The Snares, islands south of New Zealand, mapped and discussed. *New Zealand Journal of Botany*, 42(5), 861-872.

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

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961).

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MORE INFORMATION

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

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