Celmisia gibbsii

COMMON NAMES
Gibbs's mountain daisy

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Small shrublet with sparingly branched woody stems. Leaves numerous, closely imbricate along ascending branchlets. Lamina 10.0-20.0 × 2.0-3.5 mm, spreading from sheathing base, finally reflexed, linear-lanceolate, coriaceous, midrib impressed above, prominent below; upper surface glabrous, rather pale green; lower surface with rather sparse minute deciduous scurfy scales; apex thickened, obtuse to subacute; base hardly widened to membranous sheath bearing scurfy scales; margins thick, revolute almost to midrib. Scape ± 40-60 mm long, slender, sparsely clad in scurfy scales; bracts numerous, lamina linear-oblong, ± 4 mm long, sheath ± 3 mm long, appressed. Capitula 20-25 diameter; involucral bracts narrow-oblong, obtuse to subacute, ascending to patent, sometimes with tuft of hairs at tip, widened at base, up to c.7 mm long. Ray florets numerous, elliptic-oblong, 3-5-toothed, up to 15 mm long, bearing a few appressed hairs. Disk-florets tubular-funnelform, up to ± 6 mm long. Achenes c.2 mm long, narrow-cylindric, ribs with sparse stiff hairs. Pappus-hairs white, up to 5.5 mm long, very finely barbellate.

Flowering at Mt Domett, Kahurangi National Park. Photographer: Simon Walls, Date taken: 26/01/2017, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Abaxial side of leaf. Photographer: Jane Gosden, Date taken: 23/01/2023, Licence: CC BY-NC.

SIMILAR TAXA
Similar to Celmisia brevifolia from which it differs by its linear to lanceolate (rather than oblong to obovate-oblong) narrower leaves (up to 5 mm cf. 6-9 mm wide) with a narrowly obtuse, acute to acuminate leaf apex. The undersides of the leaves and the scapes of C. gibbsii are clad in scurfy scales.

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. South Island: North-West Nelson (Kahurangi National Park - Mount Cobb, Waingaro Peak, Mount Lockett, Mount Zetland)

HABITAT
Alpine in moist rocky places and fellfield:

THREATS
A naturally uncommon species that does not appear to be actively threatened

GENUS
Celmisia

FAMILY
Asteraceae

AUTHORITY
Celmisia gibbsii Cheeseman

SYNONYMS
None

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
October - January

FRUITING
December - March

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Difficult. Best raised from fresh seed and grown in an alpine house.

ETYMOLOGY
celmisia: Apparently named after Kelmis, one of Idaean Dactyls, a group of skilled mythical beings associated with the Mother Goddess Rhea in Greek mythology. Kelmis, whose name means 'casting', was a blacksmith and childhood friend of Zeus, son of Rhea and later king of the gods. In Ovid's 'Metamorphoses', Kelmis is described as offending Zeus who turned him into adamant so he was as hard as a tempered blade
gibbsii: Named in honor of Frederick G Gibbs (1866-1953)

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY
Key to Celmisia in New Zealand

NVS CODE
CELGIB

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 108

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp
2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp
2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon
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
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 from Allan (1961)
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MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-gibbsii/

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