

Celmisia viscosa

COMMON NAME

Sticky mountain daisy

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Hook.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

CELVIS

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island. Marlborough south and mostly east of the divide

HABITAT

Upper montane to alpine. In grassland, herbfield, fellfield, around rock outcrops, and in stable talus (boulder-field) and occasionally scree



Mt Burns January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Middle Peel. Photographer: Gillian M. Crowcroft, Licence: All rights reserved.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout subshrub with numerous low-growing branches, forming patches up to 2 m diameter; main stems up to 20 mm diameter, branches c.10 mm diameter, clad in persistent leaf-remnants; branchlets erect to ascending, living leaves in subrosulate tufts, ascending, finally reflexed. Lamina rigid, thick, coriaceous, very viscid, 60-150 × 6-9 mm, linear-subulate to narrow-oblong, gradually tapering from base to subacute apex; upper surface bright green, glabrous or occasionally pellicled, coarsely longitudinally grooved; lower surface white with appressed soft white felted tomentum; ribs numerous, prominent, parallel. Margins not or very slightly recurved, very minutely denticulate. Sheath abruptly widening from lamina, 20-25 × 10-15 mm, glabrous, grooved, brown to purplish. Scape stout, ± 150-300 mm long, densely glandular-pubescent; bracts few to many, viscid, linear-subulate, up to 20 mm long. Capitula 30-40 mm diameter; involucral bracts numerous, linear-subulate, acuminate, up to c.20 mm long, densely glandular-pubescent, except towards base. Ray-florets spreading, 10-20 mm long, white, limb narrow-oblong; disk-florets numerous, tubular, 3-5 mm long. Achenes narrow-cylindric, ± compressed, 3-4 mm long; ribs with short ascending hairs. Pappus-hairs up to c.6•5 mm long, white, very slender, hardly barbellate.

SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to *Celmisia angustifolia* from which it differs by the distinctively, heavily ribbed, extremely viscid longer leaves (60-150 × 6-9 mm cf. 25-50 × 2-6 mm).

FLOWERING

November - March

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

December - May

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Unknown. Probably best grown from fresh seed and like many *Celmisia* this species will probably dislike high humidity and drying out

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

viscosa: Sticky

WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I, Government Printer, Wellington.

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 11: 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-viscosa/>