Macrolearia angustifolia

COMMON NAMES
teteaweka

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

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

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION
Bushy small tree with narrow leathery saw-edged dark green leaves that are white underneath and large whiteish daisy-like heads inhabiting coastal forest on Bluff and Stewart Island. Leaves 7-15cm long by 1-2cm wide, widest at base and tapering to tip, many even small thick teeth along edge. Flowers 3.5-5cm wide, petals white, centre purple.

FLOWER COLOURS
Violet/Purple, White

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. Te Waipounamu | South Island & Rakiura | Stewart Island, lLocally present on the Bluff Peninsula at the southern tip of the South Island; more common on Rakiura/Stewart Island and surrounding islets.

HABITAT
Lowland (0-400 m.a.s.l.). Coastal habitats in “muttonbird scrub” usually overlying peat. Never far from the sea.

THREATS
Locally common and secure over large parts of its range. However, some of the eastern populations on the Southland coast which are very fragmented and small and in decline. The species is vulnerable to trampling from livestock and is browsed by possums, deer, goats and livestock.

GENUS
Macrolearia

FAMILY
Asteraceae

AUTHORITY
Macrolearia angustifolia (Hook.f.) Saldivia

SYNONYMS
Olearia angustifolia Hook.f., Olearia angustata J.B.Armstr. nom. illegit.



Close up of the capitula of Olearia angustifolia, northern end of Masons Bay, Stewart Island. Photographer: Gillian M. Crowcroft, Date taken: 03/01/2000, Licence: All rights reserved.



Abaxial leaf surface showing indumentum, venation and leaf margin. Motupohue (Bluff Hill), Foveaux Walkway. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Date taken: 10/04/2021, Licence: CC BY.

TAXONOMIC NOTES
Together with *Macrolearia chathamica*, this species is clearly allied to the Fiordland coast / Rakiura / Stewart Island endemic *M. oporina*, such that some botanists believing them allopatric had considered them all varieties / subspecies of each other. This view, which was unpublished but widely used anyway was not upheld by Saldivia et al. (2022) who established the genus *Macrolearia*, in the process reviewing the status of the species previously treated as macrocephalous *Olearia*.

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
October - January(-March).

FRUITING
November - April.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Easy from fresh seed and cuttings but very difficult to maintain in cultivation. Dislikes humidity and drought, and should be grown in a cool, damp, well drained soil, ideally near the sea. Plants are prone to sudden collapse during times of stress.

CULTIVATION
Occasionally offered by specialist native plant nurseries.

ETYMOLOGY
macrolearia: Macrolearia comprised of two parts: Macro refers to the common name ‘macrocephalous’ a Greek based word used for this species group meaning “large head”(in reference to the flower), and to Olearia the former genus from which the new genus is segregated.
angustifolia: From the Latin angustus ‘narrow, constricted’ and folius ‘leaf’, meaning narrow-leaved

NVS CODE
MACAGF

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 108

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR
2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING
Saldivia, P.; Wagstaff, S.J.; Breitwieser, I.; Orlovich, D.A.; Lord, J.M. 2022: A Generic Taxonomic Synopsis of the *Pleurophyllum* Clade (Asteraceae: Astereae: Celmisiinae) with the Recognition of the New Zealand Endemic New Genus *Macrolearia*. *Systematic Botany 47*: 607–634.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION
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https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/macrolearia-angustifolia/ (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/macrolearia-angustifolia/

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