

Macrolearia oporina

SYNONYMS

Arnica oporina G.Forst., *Olearia oporina* (G.Forst.) Hook.f., *Olearia oporina* var. *robusta* Kirk

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Macrolearia oporina (G.Forst.) Saldivia

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

OLEOPO

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

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

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Small tree with narrow leathery saw-edged dark green leaves that are white underneath and large yellow-centred whiteish daisy-like heads inhabiting the Fiordland coast. Leaves 5-10cm long by 1.5-2cm wide, widest at middle, with large thick teeth along edge. Flowers 3-4cm wide, petals white, centre yellow.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island along the west and south Fiordland from Martins Bay southwards. Also reported from Rakiura / Stewart Island and some surrounding islands and islets (e.g., Whenahou / Codfish Island).

HABITAT

Coastal. Usually a component of coastal scrub or forest, often on peaty ground, where it is usually associated with muttonbird daisy (*Brachyglottis rotundifolia*), inaka (*Dracophyllum longifolium*), and kokomuka (*Hebe* (*Veronica*) *elliptica*).

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

ETYMOLOGY

oporina: Autumnal



Olearia oporina. Photographer: Sue Lake



Olearia oporina. Photographer: Sue Lake

Taxonomic Notes

Macrolearia oporina is closely allied to *M. angustifolia* and *M. chathamica*, and on the assumption that all three species were allopatric some botanists have considered them all varieties / subspecies of each other. This view 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*. Saldivia et al. (2022) records *M. oporina* from Rakiura / Stewart Island and some of the near shore islands and islets to it, suggesting sympatry with *M. angustifolia*.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Macrolearia oporina* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/macrolearia-oporina/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/macrolearia-oporina/>