

# Ozothamnus vauvilliersii

## COMMON NAME

Mountain tauhinu

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Ozothamnus vauvilliersii* Hombr. et Jacquinot ex Decne

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

OZOVAU

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 26-28

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Yellow-green bushy shrub with short (3-10mm long) oval leaves inhabiting open areas and disturbed sites. Flowers white, body of papery scales, in tight clusters at tip of branches. Seeds fuzzy.

## DISTRIBUTION

North, South, Stewart, and Auckland Islands. Found throughout in suitable habitat.

## HABITAT

Lowland to montane or lower subalpine shrubland and grassland.

## FEATURES

Shrub up to 3 m tall. Branchlets rather stout, furrowed, more or less glutinous, clad in fulvous tomentum. Leaves 5-12 x 2-3 mm, finally spreading from erect petioles, coriaceous, becoming glabrous above, clad in fulvous tomentum below, linear-spathulate to narrow oblong-obovate, margins slightly revolute, midrib prominent below. Capitula 10-20 or more, in dense corymbs, pedicels short. Phyllaries in 3-4 series, outer tomentose on back, inner with white radiating tips; forming a turbinate involucre approximately 4 mm long. Scales of receptacle numerous, white-tipped; florets 8-15; achenes hardly 1 mm long, glabrous to sparsely pubescent; pappus-hairs up to 4.5 mm long, distinctly thickened at tips.



Mangatepopo, February. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Ozothamnus vauvilliersii. Photographer: John Barkla

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Ozothamnus leptophylla* has leaves of linear order, not or hardly widened above middle.

*Olearia solandri* has leaves opposite or in opposite clusters, young branchlets square in cross-section, and white daisies borne along the leafy shoots.

*Olearia nummulariifolia* has stiffer, broader leaves, and white daisies borne behind the leafy shoot tip. *Olearia cymbifolia* has stiff leaves with margins rolled down almost to the midrib, and flowers like *Olearia nummulariifolia*.

*Brachyglottis cassinioides* has leaves whitish green above, white beneath, with margins slightly toothed on shaded shoots, and bright yellow daisy flowers.

## FLOWERING

December-May (-August)

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

February-June (-September)

## ETYMOLOGY

**ozothamnus**: from the Greek 'ozo' meaning to smell and 'thamnos' meaning shrub; alluding to the fragrant foliage when crushed.

**vauvilliersii**: After Vauvilliers

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

It is debatable whether *Ozothamnus vauvilliersii* is an entity worthy of species level recognition, or just an extent of the variation of *Ozothamnus leptophylla* (See notes below that species).

## ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961) and Wilson & Galloway (1993).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 726-728.

Wilson, H. D., & Galloway, T. 1993. Small-leaved shrubs of New Zealand. Manuka Press. pg. 204-205.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ozothamnus-vauvilliersii/>