

# Raoulia grandiflora

## COMMON NAME

large-flowered mat daisy

## SYNONYMS

Gnaphalium fasciculatum Buchanan, *Raoulia grandiflora* var. *fasciculata* (Buchanan) Cheeseman; *Psychrophyton grandiflorum* Beauverd

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Raoulia grandiflora* Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

RAOGRA

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North and South Islands from Mt Hikurangi south.

## HABITAT

Upper montane to alpine. Usually amongst rocks and fellfield, rarely in ablation zones within herbfield.

## FEATURES

Stems woody at base, much-branched; branches and branchlets densely to rather loosely arranged, the plant forming cushions or mats up to c.150 mm diameter, occasionally of more open habit. Leaves densely imbricate, 5-10 × 1-2 mm, 3-nerved, ovate-lanceolate-spathulate, tapering to subacute tip, clad in upper part on both surfaces in appressed silvery tomentum, loosely tomentose near base. Capitula up to 15 mm diameter; inner series of involucrel bracts linear, contracted near middle, obtuse, with conspicuous white radiate tips up to c. 5 mm long. Florets 25-45; female 8-15 with narrow slender corolla, perfect with funnelform corolla. Stylopodium prominent. Achenes < 1 mm. long, clad in silky hairs; pappus-hairs c. 5 mm long, stiff, slightly thickened at tips.

## FLOWERING

October - January



*Raoulia grandiflora*. Photographer: Gillian Crowcroft



*Raoulia grandiflora*. Photographer: John Barkla

## FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

## FRUITING

December - May

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

## ETYMOLOGY

**raoulia**: Named after Étienne Fiacre Louis Raoul (23 July 1815–30 March 1852) who was a French naval surgeon and naturalist. He published a book *Choix de plantes de la Nouvelle-Zélande* ("Selected plants of New Zealand") in 1846. The genus was named after him by Joseph Hooker.

**grandiflora**: Large flowered

## 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.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/raoulia-grandiflora/>