

Raoulia subulata

COMMON NAME

scabweed

SYNONYMS

Psychrophyton subulatum Beauverd

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Raoulia subulata Hook.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

RAOSUB

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 56

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: Nelson south to Southland, mostly east of the main divide

HABITAT

Subalpine herbfield

FEATURES

Closely branched more or less tufted herb forming patches up to 100 mm diameter; branches up to c. 40 mm long. Leaves densely imbricate, suberect to spreading, 3.0-10.0 × 0.5-1.0 mm, glabrous, membranous, firm, prominently 1-nerved, lanceolate, acuminate. Capitula more or less 4 mm diameter. Involucral bracts scarious, 3-4 × c.1 mm.; inner irregularly lacinate at tips. Florets 15-25, female fewer than perfect and sterile; corolla subfunneliform, lobes more or less acute. Achenes < 1mm. long, papillae long-claviform; pappus-hairs c.3 mm. long, rather rigid, slightly thickened above; papillae claviform. Receptacle hispid.

FLOWERING

December - February

FLOWER COLOURS

White



Temple Basin, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Temple Basin, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

FRUITING

February - April

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.

subulata: From the Latin *subulam* 'awl', meaning awl-shaped

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. 1*. Government Printer, Wellington.

MORE INFORMATION

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