

Shawia minor

COMMON NAMES

Marlborough daisy

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small and slender spreading shrub, less than 1m tall. Leaves diamond-shaped or blunt-ended 6.5-10cm long, 2.5-4cm wide, with a thin layer of felted hair on the back. Flower heads white, max. 3.5cm diameter. Flower stalks slender, sometimes leafy, about 10cm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Shawia insignis. Leaves of *S. minor* are much smaller and more slender, with thinner layer of felted hair. It has smaller, slender stalked flowers, opening slightly later than other *Shawia* species.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. From Clarence to Puhipuhi Rivers, South Marlborough.

HABITAT

Coastal and inland lowland, usually confined to steep rocky or stony sites, rock faces and slopes.

THREATS

Pachystegia minor is probably very local in its distribution, and many of the more accessible populations are often damaged by browsing animals. Some populations are at risk from roads, fire and the spread of weeds such as gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

GENUS

Shawia

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Shawia minor (Cheeseman) Salidiva & Nicol

SYNONYMS

Olearia insignis var. *minor* Cheeseman, *Pachystegia insignis* var. *minor* Cheeseman, *Pachystegia minor* (Cheeseman) Molloy

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes



Ohau Bluff variant in cultivation. Dec 2006.
Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



At Ohau Bluff (in January). Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

December to February

FRUITING

February to April

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed but tricky to transplant. Can be grown from cuttings with extreme difficulty.

CULTIVATION

Occasionally offered by retail plant and specialist native plant nurseries.

ETYMOLOGY

shawia: After Thomas Shaw (1694-1751), English scholar and traveller.

minor: Smaller

NVS CODE

PACMIN

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR

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

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Data Deficient

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Saldivia, P.; Nicol, D.A. 2025: Reinstatement, broader circumscription, and infrageneric classification of *Shawia* (Astereae, Celmisiinae), a large woody genus endemic to Australasia. *Phytoneuron* 49: 1–43.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/shawia-minor/>

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