

Celmisia polyvena

COMMON NAME

Tin Range mountain daisy

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Celmisia polyvena G.Simpson et G.Thomson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

CELPOL

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

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

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Stewart Island: south of, and including Mt Rakeahua - mostly in the Tin Range

HABITAT

Lowland to subalpine in poorly draining grassland, tussockland, shrubland, mires and similar boggy ground and in seepages within rock crevices

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Silvery-white to white solitary, clumped or extensive patch forming herb. Branches slender, variable, clad in persistent leaf-remnants; branchlets densely clad in imbricate, ascending, spreading to recurved leaves. Lamina variable 10-60 × 5-15 mm, narrow-linear, linear to lanceolate, subcoriaceous, upper and lower surfaces silvery-white, upper surface ribbed, pellicle persistent, underside with inrolled margin and raised purplish midrib. Scapes 100-150 mm long, purplish, slender, clothed with fine woolly tomentum; bracts numerous, linear-lanceolate, silvery tomentose, with broad, purplish sheathing bases. Heads 25 mm diameter; involucre bracts brownish, pubescent, spreading at the tips; ray florets white, obcuneate, rounded at the tip. Achenes 3 mm long, linear, pointed at the base, slightly widening towards the tip, silky.



SIMILAR TAXA

On Stewart Island (where this species is endemic) it is mostly likely to be confused with plants attributed to *C. graminifolia* and *C. alpina*. From plants of the *C. graminifolia* aggregate it differs by the silvery-white mostly narrowly linear to linear, inrolled leaves (rather than mostly flat (or inrolled) leaves which are brownish to brown-green and often patterned above; and by the purplish rather than pale green or white scapes. From *C. alpina*, *C. polyvena* differs by the larger size, and broader, less inrolled, silvery-white rather than very narrow, tightly inrolled, brown or grey-green leaves, purple rather than pale scape, and much larger capitula. *Celmisia polyvena* is part of the *C. gracilentata* - *C. graminifolia* complex.

FLOWERING

November - December

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

February - April

LIFE CYCLE

Pappate cypselae are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Unknown. Probably easy from fresh seed, and plants are likely to require a shaded site, planted within a permanently moist soil.

THREATS

A naturally uncommon species that does not appear to be actively threatened

ETYMOLOGY

celmisia: Apparently named after Kelmis, one of Idaean Dactyls, a group of skilled mythical beings associated with the Mother Goddess Rhea in Greek mythology. Kelmis, whose name means 'casting', was a blacksmith and childhood friend of Zeus, son of Rhea and later king of the gods. In Ovid's 'Metamorphoses', Kelmis is described as offending Zeus who turned him into adamant so he was as hard as a tempered blade

polyvena: Many-veined (leaves)

WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

ATTRIBUTION

Description based on limited herbarium material.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/celmisia-polyvena/>