

# Raoulia mammillaris

## COMMON NAMES

vegetable sheep

## SYNONYMS

*Psychrophyton mammillare* Beauverd

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Raoulia mammillaris* Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

RAOMAM

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

$2n = 28$

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island - mostly east of the main divide and centred on Canterbury

## HABITAT

Subalpine to alpine. On rocks, talus and scree and sparsely vegetated fellfield.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stock stout, woody; branches densely compacted, woody at base, forming hard rounded cushions up to 500 mm diameter. Leaves densely imbricate, c. 3-4 × 1 mm, obovate-spathulate, rounded at apex; basal portion glabrous on ventral surface, clad in floccose hairs on dorsal surface below apex; apical portion clad on both surfaces in straight ascending hairs but little exceeding lamina-apex. Capitula up to 6.5 mm diameter, inner series of involucre bracts c.4 mm long, narrow-oblong, margins scarious; tips obtuse, white, radiating. Florets 10-12. Achenes up to 1.25 mm long, clad in long silky hairs; pappus-hairs c.3 mm long, rigid

## FLOWERING

November - January



Foggy Peak, Torlesse range, January.  
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Craigieburn Skifield, Canterbury. Photographer: Jesse Bythell, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## FRUITING

December - 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.

**mammillaris**: Teat bearing

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961)

Some of this factsheet information is derived from [Flora of New Zealand Online](#) and is used under a [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 New Zealand licence](#).

## 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-mammillaris/>

## PDF DATE

17 September 2024