

Brachyglottis kirkii var. angustior

COMMON NAME

kohurangi, Kirk's tree daisy

SYNONYMS

Senecio kirkii var. *angustior* Allan, *Urostemon kirkii* var. *angustior* (Allan) B.Nord.

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis kirkii var. *angustior* (Allan) C.J.Webb

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BRAKVA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Fleshy small green shrub bearing large white daisy-like flowers. Twigs reddish-purple, brittle, with old leaf scars. Leaves narrow, shiny, fleshy, margin wavy. Flowers with long white radiating petals around a yellow centre, clustered together.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Confined to the North Island where it is known from about Te Puke and Ngaruawahia north to Te Pahi

HABITAT

Forest floor.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub up to 3 m tall. Branches brittle. Leaves 50-120 x 10-20 mm, lanceolate- to narrow-oblong, entire to shallowly sinuate. Corymbs up to 300 mm diameter or more, lower bracts foliaceous; capitula campanulate, up to 50 mm diameter; phyllaries narrow-oblong, acute, membranous on margins. Ray-florets 2, with white spreading ligules 20-30 mm long. Achenes linear, approximately 6 mm long, finely grooved; pappus-hairs stiff, up to 9 mm long, minutely barbellate.



Long Bay, Coromandel, April. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Close up of flowers, Long Bay, Coromandel, April. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

SIMILAR TAXA

Very similar to *Brachyglottis kirkii* var. *kirkii* which generally grows as an epiphyte; has a greater range geographically (locally found throughout North island); has shorter and wider leaves (40-100 x 20-40 mm) which are obviously toothed along margin; and generally, flowers later in the year (August-October).

FLOWERING

(January-) March - June

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

(February-) April - August

LIFE CYCLE

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

ETYMOLOGY

brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning "short" and glottis meaning "the vocal apparatus of the larynx"

kirkii: After Thomas Kirk (18 January 1828 - 8 March 1898), a NZ botanist and lecturer in natural sciences and regarded as a leader of botanical enquiry in NZ for over three decades. One of his most significant publications was Forest flora of NZ (1889) but he also contributed over 130 papers to the Transactions and Proceedings of the NZ Institute and other journals.

angustior: From the Latin word angustare meaning "to make narrow, confine".

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Newhook (1943) drew attention to the existence of two forms but provided no formal description or varietal name. He pointed out that the narrow-leaved form is the only one known north of Kaitaia, that it is usually terrestrial, and that it flowers in autumn and early winter whereas the broad-leaved form in the same latitudes flowers in spring and summer. He suggested occasional hybridism between the two varieties.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 748.

Newhook, F. J. 1942. 3. Variation in *Senecio kirkii* Hook. f. In Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New Zealand (Vol. 72, pp. 341-346).

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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-kirkii-var-angustior/>