

# Celmisia haastii var. haastii

## COMMON NAMES

Haast's mountain daisy

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Rather stout low-growing branching grey-green subshrub forming small to large patches; branchlets ascending to erect, lower parts covered by leaf remnants, upper part obscured by rosette-leaves. Lamina 30-80 × 10-28 mm, broadly elliptic-oblong to obovate-spathulate, subcoriaceous to coriaceous; upper surface glabrous, usually longitudinally furrowed, pale green; lower surface clad in closely appressed ± satiny tomentum, midrib tomentose but ± evident; apex obtuse to subacute; margins slightly recurved, very minutely distantly denticulate, cuneately narrowed to winged petiole c. 5 mm long. Sheath delicate, pale yellowish green, ± 20-30 × 5 mm; veins evident. Scape c. 50-150 mm long, densely tomentose to almost glabrous, rather stout to slender; bracts several or numerous, linear-subulate, acute to subacute, up to c. 2 mm long or more. Capitula 25-40 mm diameter; involucre bracts linear-lanceolate, membranous, softly hairy without, up to c. 12 mm long. Ray florets 15-20 mm long; limb narrow-oblong to narrow obovate-oblong, 3-5 toothed. Disk-florets funnelform, shortly 5-toothed, 6-8 mm long. Achenes narrow-cylindric, glabrous, 3-4 mm long. Pappus-hairs up to 5-6 mm long, very finely barbellate.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to *C. discolor*, *C. incana*, *C. angustifolia*, *C. durietzii*, *C. lindsayi*, *C. bonplandii*, *C. hectorii* and *C. cockayneana*. Of these Allan (1961) considered it closest to *C. durietzii* and *C. cockayneana*. From *C. durietzii*, *C. haastii* differs by the glabrous achenes and longer, wider leaves (30-80 × 10-28 mm cf. 30-60 × 7-10 mm) and pale yellowish-green rather than translucent sheath. From *C. cockayneana* it differs by the glabrous rather than hairy achenes and shorter, broader leaves (30-80 × 10-28 mm cf. 40-100 × 10-15 mm). *Celmisia cockayneana* is a Marlborough endemic that grows well north of the range of *C. haastii*. For distinctions between *C. haastii* var. *haastii* and var. *tomentosa* see the factsheet for *C. haastii* var. *tomentosa*.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, occurring south from about North Canterbury.

## HABITAT

Montane to alpine. Inhabiting grassland, herbfield, fellfield and other moist rocky places.

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

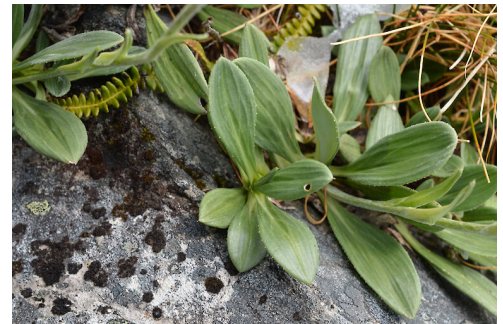
## DETAILED TAXONOMY

## FAMILY

Asteraceae



Hector Mountains. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



Craigieburn ski field, Canterbury. Photographer: Jane Gosden, Licence: CC BY-NC-SA.

## AUTHORITY

*Celmisia haastii* Hook.f. var. *haastii*

## SYNONYMS

None

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## ECOLOGY

## FLOWERING

October - January

## FRUITING

December - March

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Best grown from fresh seed. Dislikes humidity.

## OTHER INFORMATION

## 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

**haastii**: Honours the New Zealand geologist and botanist Sir Julius von Haast (1822-87)

## NVS CODE

CELHVVH

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2024 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: TL

## REFERENCING AND CITATIONS

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961: *Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I*. Government Printer, Wellington.

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.

### **ATTRIBUTION**

Description adapted from Allan (1961)

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### **MORE INFORMATION**

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

### **PDF DATE**

11 March 2025