

# Gentianella calcis subsp. manahune

## COMMON NAMES

Manahune gentian

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Gentianaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Gentianella calcis* subsp. *manahune* Glenny et Molloy

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: OL

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: EF, OL

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: OL, EF

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Critical

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, South Canterbury, at Albury and Manahune

## HABITAT

A limestone endemic growing in lowland to montane areas on limestone bluffs in rock joints, clefts, crevices and ledges

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial tufted herb. Petiole distinct, 14-32 mm long. Rosette leaves linear to very narrowly elliptical or narrowly obovate 30-60 mm long, 2.8-4.1 mm wide, green, V-shaped in cross-section, recurved at the acute leaf apex; margins minutely serrulate. Cauline leaves, 8 pairs per stem, linear, recurved, usually smaller than rosette leaves. Flowering stems, purple-black, 1-3 per plant. Pedicels 6.5-12 mm long, 0.75-0.9 mm diam. Flowers 24-42 per plant, 12-15 mm long. Calyx green, tinted purple black, 6.8-7 mm long; lobes 4.3-5.7 mm long, 1.5 mm wide at base, apices acute, recurved, margins minutely serrulate. Corolla 11.7-13.8 mm long, veins purple; tube 3.1-4.3 mm long; lobes 7.7-9.5 mm long, 5.4-6.0 mm wide, margins toothed; nectary 2.0-2.1 mm from corolla base, V-shaped deep but without flap. Filaments 6.6-8.1 mm long from corolla base, 0.45-0.6 mm wide. Anthers 1.75-2.0 mm long, extrorse at anthesis. Ovules 15-21 per ovary. Ovary blue at apex after fertilisation. Capsules 8-11.5 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to the other three subspecies of *G. calcis* Glenny et Molloy but distinguished from all of these by the purple Corolla veins. For differences between *G. calcis* subsp. *manahune* and *G. astonii* T.N.Ho et S.W.Liu see under *G. calcis* subsp. *calcis*.



## FLOWERING

May-June

## FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

## FRUITING

June-September

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild.

## THREATS

Under severe threat from the spread of *Hieraceum pilosella* L. and pasture grasses, habitat loss due to changes in stocking regimes, and through browsing from feral goats. Limestone quarrying is a long-term threat, while the very small population is vulnerable to erosion, boulder and rock falls and erosion. Previously recorded as *Gentiana* aff. *astonii* (c) (CHR 542276; Manahune) in de Lange et al. (2004).

## ETYMOLOGY

**gentianella**: Little *Gentiana* (named after Gentius, 6th century king of Illyria, who found the roots of the yellow gentian to have a healing effect on his malaria-stricken troops)

## WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet for NZPCN prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2004). Description modified from Glenny (2004)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

de Lange et al., 2004, Threatened and uncommon plants on New Zealand, *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 45-76.

Glenny, D. 2004: A revision of the genus *Gentianella* in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 361-530.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gentianella-calcis-subsp-manahune/>

## PDF DATE

17 September 2024