

# Biodiversity

## Brachyglottis turneri



### DESCRIPTION

*Brachyglottis turneri* is a rare herb that grows up to 2m tall. It has yellow daisy flowers, each head being approximately 3cm in diameter. These appear in clusters on a tall woody stem in late spring. The fleshy green leaves are large and heart-shaped narrowing to a point. The plants are connected by underground stems (rhizomes). In some situations, populations that have been thought to consist of many plants have been found to be a single plant all interconnected by many stems.

### DISTRIBUTION

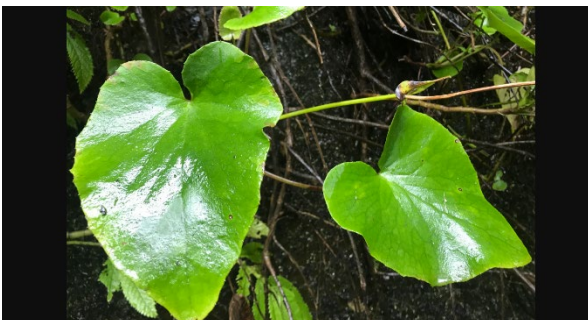
*Brachyglottis turneri* is endemic to New Zealand. There are only 13 individual populations known to exist. Its distribution is confined to Taranaki in the west, and inland to the Pohangina Valley, Manawatū. Most of the populations are located in remote areas that have been poorly explored. The search is ongoing to find new populations. *Brachyglottis turneri* typically colonise steep areas that are inaccessible to feral goats and other browsing animal pests. Its preferred habitat is wet seepages generally on mudstone cliffs overhanging streams or rivers, or on the pseudo cliff habitat of roadside cuttings; often found growing adjacent to *Machaerina sinclairii*. It is likely it would have been more widespread on a wider range of wet (non-forest) landforms prior to the introduction of goats.

### Brachyglottis turneri IN TARANAKI

Only a few known isolated populations remain in Taranaki; on the Waitara, Tongapōrutu, Onaero and Mokau rivers, the upper reaches of the Whanganui River, and the Tangarakau and Mimi Scenic Reserves. Other undiscovered populations may be present.

### PLANTING RANGE IN TARANAKI

Taranaki Regional Council recommends planting *Brachyglottis turneri* on wet, shady, mudstone cliffs where feral goat control is sustained.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP

- Record sightings of *Brachyglottis turneri* by uploading your photos to iNaturalist <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- Fence off populations to prevent browsing by sheep, cattle and ungulates.
- Undertake regular control of feral goats.

### CONSERVATION

*Brachyglottis turneri* is an endemic species that is nationally threatened with a classification of 'Nationally Endangered'. Very few populations of this plant have been discovered. Most of the known populations appear to be in decline.

### THREATS

Threats include

- Vegetation clearance along roadsides
- Erosion
- Browsing by feral goats and domestic livestock.

### QUICK FACTS

- A member of the Asteraceae (daisy) family, it has flower heads or capitulum which consist of numerous tiny individual flowers called florets
- It is highly palatable and browsed by feral goats.