

Senecio macrocarpus



Senecio macrocarpus.
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FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Senecio macrocarpus*,
Belcher, *Muelleria* 5: 119 (1983)

COMMON NAME: Fluffy groundsel

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Vulnerable

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) presumed
extinct

Description

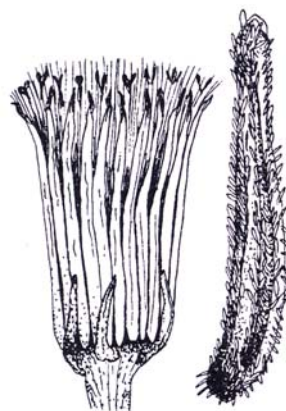
An erect or sprawling shrub with stems to approximately 70 cm tall arising from a perennial rootstock that is usually greyish-cobwebbed all over. **Leaves:** The leaves are stalkless, linear in shape and between 4-12 cm long and 2-5 mm wide. The leaf margins are entire or sometimes slightly notched. The upper leaf surface is sometimes covered with bristly hairs as well as being cobwebbed, the lower surface is usually more densely cobwebbed than the upper. **Flowers:** The yellow flowers are in a flattish arrangement with the central or end flowers blooming earliest. There are between 2-10 flowers in each flowerhead. **Fruit:** The fruit is small, dry, leathery and cylindrical in shape but taper towards the tip. They are approximately 4.5-6 mm long and densely hairy in rows. The pappus (ring of scales of bristles on top of the fruit) consists of slender hairs between 8-10 mm long (description from Walsh & Entwistle 1999).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria and South Australia. The only Tasmanian locality information for *Senecio macrocarpus* available is 'northern Tasmania' (Belcher 1983).

Key Sites and Populations

There is no information available regarding key sites and populations for this species.



Senecio macrocarpus
flowerhead and fruit.
Permission from N. Walsh
(Flora of Victoria).

Known Reserves

This species is not currently known from any reserve.

Ecology and Management

Insects are the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Senecio macrocarpus*.

Further Information

- Belcher, RO 1983, New Australian Species of Erechthitoid *Senecio* (Asteraceae), *Muelleria*, Vol.5 (2), pp.119-222.
- Walsh, NG & Entwistle, TJ eds 1999, *Flora of Victoria*, Volume 4, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

Tasmanian Distribution

There is no distribution information available for *Senecio macrocarpus*.

Date last modified: 03/09/03