

MAZUS PUMILIO R.Br.

John Thompson

On the 20th February 1980 we were fortunate to see in flower in a paddock behind Leithfield Beach a few plants of Mazus pumilio R.Br. then unknown to me.

On a further visit two weeks later more patches of this species were seen; one area of some 4 metres by 2 metres contained little else.

Mazus pumilio has only infrequently been recorded in the South Island. An examination of the herbaria at D.S.I.R. Lincoln, Canterbury University and the Christchurch Botanic Gardens discloses the following records:-

CANTERBURY:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
J.B. Armstrong	Waimakariri Mouth	Undated
J.B. Armstrong	Sand dunes Christchurch	1863
Julius von Haast	Canterbury Plains	Undated
A. Wall	New Brighton dunes	1917
A. Wall	Mt. Grey	Dec.1930

OTAGO:

J.A. McNeur	Clutha riverbank Earnscliffe	Jan.1950
B. Campbell	Luggate Wanaka	Jan.1969
P. Johnson	Lowburn near Cromwell	Mar.1980

WESTLAND:

L.J. Metcalf	Charleston	--
A. Dobson	Wanganui River Hari Hari	Jan.1978
Mary Barker	Cape Foulwind Sandy foreshore	Jan.1978

Arnold Wall in his Botany of Christchurch, Page 31, writes: "The great distinction of the dune vegetation of Canterbury is the lovely little dwarf Mazus (Mazus pumilio). It grows best among the small Manuka scrub". He is probably referring to his 1917 find on the New Brighton dunes. So far I have been unable to find it at New Brighton or on any other Canterbury dune I have examined nor have I found any dune with Manuka growing on it. My readers may know of some Manuka on sand dunes.

The flower is small and of a very light blue colour with a yellow throat. The larger lower lip has three lobes and the smaller upper lip is 2.fid. It is a shy flowerer. In all we have seen hundreds of leaf rosettes but only a few have shown flowers or fruiting stems.

Since writing the above we have found further plants of Mazus pumilio on two sites in the Chaney Forest. All sites in which Mazus pumilio has been seen have been wetish areas with a popula-

tion of Juncus sp. Hypochaeris glabra, Scirpus nodosus, or other damp area plants.

Mr. Cecil Dunn's drawing shows M. pumilio in fruit. You will note that all the capsules are arranged in one plane.

I wish to thank Mr. Peter Johnson, Miss Bryony Macmillan, Miss Mary Barker and Mr. H.G. Gilpin for their help in supplying information on this interesting species and to Mr. Cecil Dunn for his drawing.



**Mazus pumilio**

DISTRIBUTION MAPS OF HEBE IN CANTERBURY AS AN EXTENSION OF  
THE CANTERBURY CHECKLIST

A.D. Macdonald

A series of maps has been compiled using specimens in the D.S.I.R. herbarium (including the herbarium from the Canterbury Museum), and the herbarium of Canterbury University. I thank the curators of the herbaria for their permission to use the specimens and for their assistance. I have checked the names of the specimens, found their localities on the topographical maps and placed the