

## SEEDLINGS OF ALPINE PLANTS

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Seedlings of alpine plants are not often reported. Seedlings of *Chionochloa* species are not often seen, and regenerating processes in snowtussock grasslands are not well understood. Seedlings in the south-facing gullies near the Mt Olympus Skifield Hut (1640m) and in a *Chionochloa macra* tussockland (1380m) at the head of the Ryton valley (see map p 57).

The presence of *C. macra* seedlings and tussocks of intermediate size in the Ryton valley grassland suggests that studies on its regeneration could be carried out here. Seedlings (8-10cm) were found under adult plants associated with a well developed intertussock community.

On the Mt Olympus Skifield seedlings were often found growing in moss beds. These beds apparently act as nursery areas for seedlings. Intermediate size classes were found here for *Celmisia angustifolia* and *C. petiolata*. In both areas, mature plants of the same species were found in the same 0.5x0.5m quadrat for almost every seedling.

Listed below are the species for which seedlings were found:

### Ryton Valley

*Anisotome flexuosa*  
*Celmisia lyallii*  
*Chionochloa macra*

*Galium perpusillum*  
*Luzula traversii*  
*Poa colensoi*

### Mt Olympus Skifield Valley

*Aciphylla monroi*  
*Agrostis subulata*  
*Anistome aromatica*  
*A. flexuosa*  
*A. imbricata*  
*A. pilifera*  
*Brachycome sinclairii*  
*Cardamine corymbosa*  
*Celmisia angustifolia*  
*C. petiolata*  
*C. spectabilis*  
*Cerastium fontanum\**  
*Coprosma pumila*  
*Epilobium sp*  
*Fostera sedifolia*

*Hieracium lepidulum\**  
*Hydrocotyle novae-zeelandiae*  
*Leptinella pyrethrifolia*  
*Luzula pumila*  
*L. traversii*  
*Plantago novae-zeelandiae*  
*Poa annua\**  
*P. colensoi*  
*Ranunculus ensyii*  
*Rytidosperma setifolium*  
*Senecio bellidioides*  
*S. scorzoneroides*