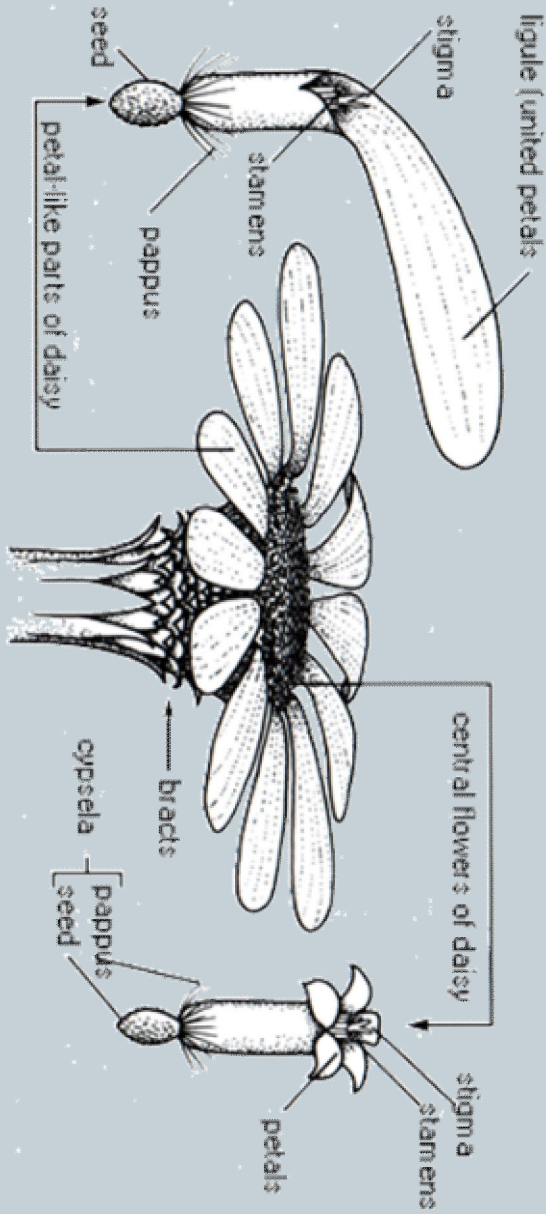


A daisy flower (Asteraceae) — a composite head of many small flowers



For further copies please contact Far East Victoria Landcare-
P.O. Box 301, Orbost 3888, Vic

References:

Australian National Botanic Gardens, 2012, Plant Families - Family Asteraceae, Australian Government, Canberra, viewed 5 October 2012,

<http://www.anbg.gov.au/PLANTFAM/AUSTIF.HTM>

Toxicity information obtained from:

McKenzie, R.A. (2012) *Australia's Poisonous Plants, Fungi and Cyanobacteria*. CSIRO Publishing.

Plant descriptions adapted from:

Harden, G. (ed.) (1992) *Flora of New South Wales*. Vol. 3 pp. 299 —312 (Senecio), New South Wales University Press;

I.R. Thompson in *Muelleria* 20: 67—110 (2004), and 21: 23 - 76 (2005) and,

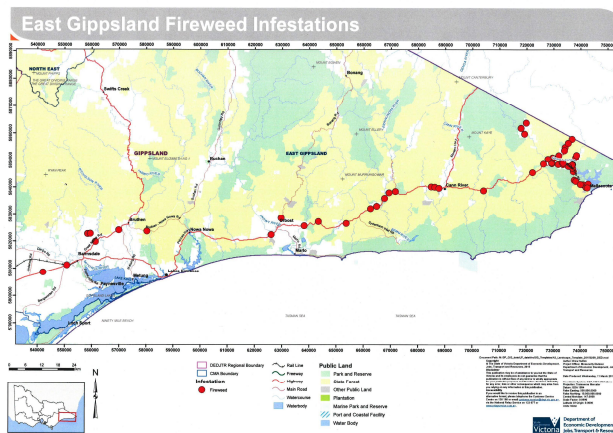
Walsh N.G. and Entwisle T.J. (eds.) (1999) *Flora of Victoria*. Vol. 4 pp. 941 – 965 (Senecio), Inkata Press

This information sheet was compiled in January 2015 by Allen Trumbull-Ward, Biodiversity Officer, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Orbost, Victoria 3888.

Layout and design by Emma Orgill, East Gippsland Regional Landcare Facilitator.

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Referenced map from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2015)



The Regional Landcare Facilitator Program is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Weed of National Significance

Fireweed

Senecio madagascariensis



Due to similarities with native varieties, *Senecio madagascariensis* should be formally identified prior to removal. Please contact your local Landcare office for advice.



WEED

Found in Far East Gippsland

Fireweed

Senecio madagascariensis

erect branching herb 20—60cm tall

stems without hairs OR sparsely hairy
leaves variable, very narrow-elliptic to linear, mostly 3—10cm long; 15—25 marginal points per side, base tapered and stem-clasping.

flowers: 2—20 narrow bell-shaped heads, most of the year.

bracts (modified leaves that surround the 'flower'): 19—21 brown or black-tipped.

bracteoles (small bracts borne on the flower stalk): 8—12

ray florets: usually 13—15 with yellow ligules (petals) 6—10mm long.

achene (seed) 1.5—2.5mm long, brown.

pappus (tuft or ring of hairs) 4—6.5mm long.



NATIVE

Native to East Gippsland

Fireweed Groundsel

S. linearifolius

erect aromatic herb 0.5—2m tall

stems w/o hairs OR white-cobwebbed
leaves variable, linear to lance-shaped, 5—25cm long; about 12—20 marginal points per side, base tapered and stem-clasping.

flowers: 12—22 weakly bell-shaped heads, mostly spring—autumn.

bracts: 9—12 with (usually) unpigmented tips.

bracteoles: about 2—6

ray florets: 4—8 with yellow ligules
3.5 - 8mm long.

achene (seed) 1.5—2mm long, pale to reddish-brown.

pappus 4—5mm long.



Photo by Tony Rudd

NATIVE

Native to East Gippsland

Rock/Coastal Groundsel

S. pinnatifolius var. *pinnatifolius*

erect or sprawling herb to 1.5m tall

stems without hairs

leaves variable, divided, inversely lance-shaped to narrow linear, (upper leaves narrow), about 1.5—10cm long; 0—20 marginal points per side.

flowers: 1—20 bell-shaped heads, mainly Sept—Jan

bracts: 13—20 with brown, black or unpigmented tips

bracteoles: 6—10, margin without hairs, or with weak hairs.

ray florets: 5—14 with yellow ligules
5 - 12mm long.

achene (seed) 2.0—4.5mm long, brownish, hairy or not hairy.

pappus 5mm long, deciduous.

Photo by Kelly Pardew



Photo by Arthur Chapman

NATIVE

Native to East Gippsland

Lance-leaf Groundsel

S. pinnatifolius var. *lanceolatus*

erect herb 1.5—2m tall

stems without hairs

leaves variable, narrow to vary narrow-elliptic (upper leaves narrow-oblong, oval- or lance-shaped), 3—15cm long; 8—40 marginal points per side.

flowers: 5—30 broadly bell-shaped heads, mostly Sept—April.

bracts: about 13, with purple tips

bracteoles: 6—14, margin often coarsely hairy.

ray florets: about 13 with yellow ligules
8—12mm long.

achene (seed) 2.0—3.2mm long, brown, coppery-brown or green.

pappus about 5mm long.



Photo by Arthur Chapman

TOXICITY: Delayed onset or chronic effects. No effective therapy. Toxins: Pyrrolizidine alkaloids. Toxic parts of plant: all above-ground parts.

Animals affected: cattle and horses are the most likely victims. Goats and sheep are relatively resistant, BUT will be affected if intake is large enough or prolonged. Pigs and poultry are also susceptible. Refer Chapter 3 in *McKenzie* (2012) for poisoning profile details.