

**NELSON/MARLBOROUGH RARE/THREATENED INVERTEBRATES IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

**Invertebrate Name**

*Notoreas* sp. "Cape Campbell"

**Conservation Status**

Uncategorised



Photo, Ian Millar.

Caterpillar (larva).

**Common Name:**

Pimelea looper, pimelea moth

**Taxonomy:**

Family: Geometridae

**Endemism:**

North Canterbury – Marlborough coast, New Zealand



Scale in mm.

**General Description:**

Brightly coloured butterfly-like moth; black, orange and white patterned wings. Larvae (caterpillar) patterned like stems of host plant; less than 10mm long; found by turning back plant mat or parting branches.

**Distinguishing Features:**

Undescribed. Broadly similar to other coastal *Notoreas* species.

**Similar Species:**

Undescribed Wellington coast species.

**Distribution:**

Cloudy Bay foreshore, between Rarangi Road and Wairau Diversion; Coast south of Cape Campbell; ~~Wairau Diversion~~, along with hostplant, at Gore Bay, North Canterbury.

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**Habitat:**

Found on *Pimelea 'urvilleana'*; coastal habitat.

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**Habits:**

Day-flying; cryptic despite its bright colours.

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**Feeding/Nutrition:**

Larvae feed on *Pimelea 'urvilleana'*; young larvae apparently start life by mining leaves while still in bud.

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**Threats:**

Host plant at risk from damage by 4WD vehicles driving off formed tracks (totally dependent on survival of host plant).

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**Specimens Held In Conservancy:**

South Marlborough Area office.

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**Collection/Breeding:**

Adults found Sep-Mar, suggesting that there are two generations over the season.

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**References:**

\*Dugdale, J. (In press) Cloudy Bay foreshore and wetland/ridge entomological values. *Department of Conservation Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy Occasional Publication*.

\*Patrick, B.H. & Dugdale, J.S. 2000. Conservation status of the New Zealand Lepidoptera. *Science for Conservation*: 136. P.28. DOC, Wellington.

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**Latest Update:**

October 2000.

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*Notoreas* habitat, Cloudy Bay.

Photo, Ian Millar.



*Pimelea*, Cloudy Bay.

Photo, Ian Millar.