



Trilepidea adamsii

Common Name(s):

Adams mistletoe

Current Threat Status (2012):

Extinct

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island only, where it was once found from the Waipoua River to the Waikato and Coromandel Peninsula. Also recorded from Great Barrier and Waiheke Islands. Historic records indicate that this species was never common. The last specimen to be collected was made in 1954 from Sanitorium Hill (Maungakawa) in the Pakarua Range, east of Cambridge.

Habitat:

Semi-parasitic on mamangi and other *Coprosma* species, red mapou, and wharangi, probably restricted to coastal and lowland kauri forest margins and associated open, seral shrubland.

Features*:

Hemi-parasitic, glabrous, shrub up to 1 m diam. Branchlets terete. Leaves opposite, sessile or on stout petioles 2 mm long. Lamina (10-)50(-60) x 30(-40) mm, dark green above, pale green or reddish beneath; fleshy-coriaceous, broadly obovate, obovate, elliptic-oblong to rhomboid, margins recurved, veins indistinct. Inflorescence axillary, 2-4-flowered cymes. Peduncles stout, fleshy, almost woody, 10-15 mm. Flowers 30-40 mm long, sessile to subsessile, subtended by a small bract and two bracteoles. Receptacle-rim minutely 4-toothed. Tepals 4, greenish-yellow with marginal red stripes soon fading to a uniform pinkish-red, initially dilated at middle, splitting for c.1/4 length, often with dorsal split to base. Anthers narrow, basifixed, style initially = to perianth length, but elongating well beyond tepals at anthesis. Stigma capitate. Fruit red, fleshy, ellipsoid, 8-9 mm long. Hosts: *Coprosma arborea* Kirk, *Melicope ternata* J.R.Forst et G.Forst. and *Myrsine australis* (A.Rich.) Allan.

Flowering:

(September-) October (-November)

Fruiting:

November - December

Threats:

Habitat loss, over-collecting, loss of pollinators, loss of dispersers, and possum browse have all been proposed as contributing to the extinction of this species.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet by P.J. de Lange (15 August 2008). Description adapted from de Lange et al. (2010).

References and further reading:

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Christchurch, Canterbury University Press. 471pp.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=782



Caption: Maungakawa/Sanitorium Hill - The last known location of *Trilepidea*

Photographer: Peter de Lange



Caption: Ball, Onetangi, Waiheke

Photographer: Peter de Lange