

Melicytus macrophyllus

COMMON NAME

large-leaved māhoe

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Violaceae

AUTHORITY

Melicytus macrophyllus A.Cunn.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

MELMAC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 32

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Small bushy tree bearing many leathery oval leaves that have a few bumps on the margin inhabiting Northland and Auckland. Leaves 7-14cm long by 4-10cm wide, central vein green, vein network more visible on the underside. Flowers small, yellowish, scattered in groups along twig. Fruit purple.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island from near Kaitaia south the the Waitakere Ranges in the west and Mt William (near Bombay) in the east. Reports of the species from near Dunedin are based on mislabelled herbarium specimens

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh and semi-hardwood cuttings. An attractive shrub to small-tree which is tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions and light levels. Does best when planted under taller trees.

ETYMOLOGY

melicytus: From the Greek meli (honey) and kytos (hollow container), referring to the staminal nectaries of the flowers. Literally “honey-cave”

macrophyllus: Big leaf



Melicytus macrophyllus showing new growth, Ex Cult. Waitakere Ranges, November 2005. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/melicytus-macrophyllus/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/melicytus-macrophyllus/>