



Otokia Creek Lower Marsh planting Guide



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Made on the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network website: www.nzpcn.org.nz

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This book is a guide to the plants that the Otokia Creek and Marsh habitat trust in Brighton Otago plan to grow in our nursery and then use to restore the Lower Otokia Creek marsh. This marsh is a regionally significant wetland.

Apodasmia similis

COMMON NAME

Jointed wire rush, oioi

SYNONYMS

Leptocarpus similis Edgar

FAMILY

Restionaceae

AUTHORITY

Apodasmia similis (Edgar) Briggs et L.A.S.Johnson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Rushes & Allied Plants

NVS CODE

APOSIM

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 48

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands.

HABITAT

Mostly coastal in estuaries, saltmarshes, dunes and sandy flats and hollows. Occasionally inland in gumland scrub, along lake margins, fringing peat bogs or surrounding hot springs.



Male plant, Colville, November. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Female plant, Colville, November. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

FEATURES

Dioecious, rush-like perennial herb. Rhizomes 3-7 mm diameter, covered in closely sheathing, imbricating, dark brown scales, 10-20 mm long, each enclosing a tuft of coarse brown hairs. Culms numerous, 0.5-2.6 x 1.5-2.5(-3.0) mm, densely packed, erect, sometimes with upper third decurved to more or less pendulous, simple, terete, glaucous, grey-green, yellow-green or red-green. Leaves reduced to bract-like sheaths, these dark brown or maroon-black, regularly spaced at 70-90 mm intervals at the base of the culm, 10-60 mm apart higher up; margins entire. Male inflorescences, paniculate or fascicled, bearing numerous stalked spikelets; upper floral bracts ovate-lanceolate, mucronate, red-brown to maroon, margins membranous; tepals 6-4 more or less completely hyaline, the outer longer, brownish, the inner shorter, paler; stamens 3; ovary rudimentary. Female inflorescences fascicled, spikelets more or less sessile; upper floral bracts ovate, mucronate, > tepals; tepals 6, the outer keeled, lanceolate, acuminate, inner flat, smaller, more or less hyaline, more obtuse, mucronate; styles 3, united to midway, bright red to orange-red; staminodes 0. Fruit c.1 x 0.5 mm, triquetrous, indehiscent. Seed c.1 x 0.4 mm, oblong-elliptical, golden-brown, surface reticulate, both ends apiculate, one end dark brown, the other, almost white.

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from *Sporadanthus* F.Muell and *Empodisma* L.A.S.Johnson et D.F.Cutler by the unbranched, mostly grey-green, or reddish stems bearing regularly spaced bract-like, sheathing dark brown or maroon-black leaves, and terminal, many-flowered, paniculate to fascicled male and female spikelets.

FLOWERING

October - December

FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Red/Pink

FRUITING

December - March

LIFE CYCLE

Fruit are possibly dispersed by water and wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and rooted pieces. Does well in a range of soils and moisture regimes. Requires full sun to flourish. Now a very popular tub and traffic island plant in some cities - most material seen is from the Chatham Islands.

ETYMOLOGY

apodasmia: From the Greek apodasmios meaning 'separated', referring to the widely disjunct distribution of the species (there are two species in Australia, one in New Zealand and one in Chile) (Briggs & Johnson, 1998)

similis: Similar to another species

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from mainstream plant and specialist native plant nurseries. Most stock seen is of the large, glaucous Chatham Island form.

CULTURAL USE/IMPORTANCE

Needs critical comparison with *Apodasmia chilensis* (Gay) B.G.Briggs et L.A.S.Johnson, particularly the Chatham Island plants which seem a close match for that South American species.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Edgar and Moore (1970).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Briggs, B.G. & Johnson, L.A.S. (1998) New genera and species of Australian Restionaceae (Poales). *Telopea* 7: 345-373. http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/73237/Tel7Bri345.pdf

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: *Flora of New Zealand*. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Apodasmia similis* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/apodasmia-similis/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/apodasmia-similis/>

Plagianthus divaricatus

COMMON NAME

Salt marsh ribbonwood, marsh ribbonwood

FAMILY

Malvaceae

AUTHORITY

Plagianthus divaricatus J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

PLADIV

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Bushy tangled shrub with wide-angled thin twigs bearing small very narrow clusters of leaves and small drooping flowers inhabiting estuary areas. Twigs with star-shaped hairs (lens needed). Leaves 5-20mm long by 0.5-2mm wide. Fruit a 5mm wide dry capsule.

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

ETYMOLOGY

plagianthus: Oblique or lop-sided flower (petals uneven at the base)

divaricatus: Spreading and interlacing

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/plagianthus-divaricatus/>



Flowers, Kanuka Block, Port Levy.
Photographer: Melissa Hutchison



Kennedy bay, September. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

Schoenoplectus pungens

COMMON NAME

Three-square

SYNONYMS

Scirpus pungens Vahl; *Scirpus novae-zelandiae* Colenso; *Scirpus americanus* Pers. mispl. name; *Schoenoplectus americanus* (Pers.) Volkart ex Schinz et R.Keller, mispl. name; *Fimbristylis rara* R.Br.; *Iria rara* (R.Br.) Kuntze

FAMILY

Cyperaceae

AUTHORITY

Schoenoplectus pungens (Vahl) Palla

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Sedges

NVS CODE

SCHPUN

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. North, South and Chatham Islands. In the North Island found from West Auckland and Coromandel south, often scattered and apparently absent from Taranaki, extending inland along the Waikato River. In the South Island scattered and uncommon in Westland and Fiordland - found inland at Pareora Gorge (Canterbury) and Central Otago. Common on Chatham Island. Widespread in western Europe, America and Australia.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane (up to 400 m a.s.l.). Usually not far from the sea in saltmarshes, brackish swamps and estuaries. Also more rarely found inland around freshwater lakes and ponds, and in damp saline slacks. Also recorded from waters draining geothermal sites along the Waikato River.



Raglan harbour, March. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Raglan harbour, March. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

FEATURES

Summer-green perennial. Rhizome 2-8 mm diameter, woody, with membranous, chartaceous scales at the nodes and numerous reddish fibrous roots. Culms 0.15-1.8 m, 1-6 mm diameter, pale glaucous-grey to dark green, triquetrous, with concave sides, smooth, soft, bearing 1-2 very thin, membranous sheaths at the base. Leaves 1-4, < culm, 1-3 mm wide, linear, channelled, becoming triangular with margins sparingly scabrid towards the obtuse apex, adaxial surface membranous with obvious internal septa; sheaths long, closed, largely membranous. Inflorescence apparently lateral, of 1-4 unequal, closely compacted, sessile, spikelets; subtending bract 20-60 mm long, similar to stem and continuous with it, scabrid towards apex. Spikelets 6-11 x 3-5 mm, ovate, elliptic, dark purple-brown. Glumes broadly ovate, smooth, membranous, margins fimbriate, emarginate, midrib prolonged, mucronate, small, round teeth of glume apex. Hypogynous bristles 2-6, < nut, retrorsely scabrid, red-brown. Stamens 3. Style-branches 3. Nut 3 x 2 mm, obovoid, plano-convex to subtrigonal, prominently apiculate, smooth, grey-brown.

SIMILAR TAXA

Schoenoplectus pungens is not easily confused with either *S. californicus* (C.A.Mey.) Palla or *S. tabernaemontani* (C.C.Gmel.) Palla, species that are much taller (up to 4 m cf. 1 m in *S. pungens*), and have umbellate inflorescences bearing many spikelets, rather than dense, compact, sessile inflorescences of 1-3 spikelets. Furthermore, neither *S. californicus* or *S. tabernaemontani* have culms that are uniformly 3-angled for their entire length.

FLOWERING

October - January

FRUITING

January - June

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and the division of whole plants.

ETYMOLOGY

pungens: Sharp-pointed

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/schoenoplectus-pungens/>

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides

COMMON NAME

Kahikatea, white pine

SYNONYMS

Dacrydium excelsum D.Don in Lamb., *Dacrydium ferrugineum* Houttee ex Gord., *Dacrydium thuioides* Banks et Solander ex Carr., *Nageia excelsa* Kuntze, *Podocarpus dacrydioides* Richard, *Podocarpus thujoides* R.Br. In Bennett, *Podocarpus excelsus* (D.Don) Druce; *Podocarpus excelsus* (D. Don.) Druce

FAMILY

Podocarpaceae

AUTHORITY

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides (A.Rich.) de Laub.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

NVS CODE

DACDAC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 20

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands

HABITAT

Lowland forest, formerly dominant on frequently flooded, and/or poorly drained alluvial soils. Occasionally extends into lower montane forest. Once the dominant tree of a distinct swamp forest type all but extinct in the North Island - the best examples remain on the West Coast of the South Island.



Kahikatea - Carter Scenic Reserve, Wairarapa.
Photographer: John Sawyer



Kahikatea. Photographer: DoC

FEATURES

Stout, dioecious, cohort-forming conifer, 50 (-65) m. tall. Trunk 1(-2) m diam., often fluted and buttressed. Bark grey to dark-grey, falling in thick, sinuous flakes. Wood white, odourless. Trunks bare for 3/4 of length, subadults with a distinctive columnar growth habit, branches arising from 1/3 to 1/2 of trunk length. Branchlets slender, drooping. Leaves of juveniles subdistichous, subpatent, narrow-linear, subfalcate, acuminate, decurrent, 3-7 x 0.5-1mm red, wine-red, dark-green to green.; of subadults less than or equal to 4 mm., dark green or red; those of adults 1-2 mm., imbricating, appressed, keel, subtrigonal, lanceolate-subulate to acuminate with broader base, brown-green or glaucous. Male cones terminal, oblong, 10 mm. Pollen pale yellow. Ovule, terminal, solitary glaucous. Receptacle fleshy, oblong, compressed, warty, 2.5-6.5 mm., yellow to orange-red. Seed broadly obovate to circular (4-)4.5-6 mm diam., purple-black, thickly covered in glaucous bloom.

SIMILAR TAXA

A distinctive tree of usually swampy alluvial terraces. The columnar growth form of subadults, buttressed and fluted trunk bases, scale-like leaves, and terminal fruits bearing the distinctive circular seeds serve to immediately distinguish this species from all other indigenous conifers.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

February - April

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Can be grown from hard-wood cuttings but rather slow to strike.

THREATS

Not Threatened, although as a forest-type it has been greatly reduced through widespread logging. Very few intact examples of kahikatea-dominated forest remain in the North Island.

ETYMOLOGY

dacrycarpus: Tear shaped fruit

dacrydioides: Like a dacrydium

WHERE TO BUY

Commonly cultivated and frequently sold by most commercial nurseries and outlets. A very popular garden tree. A form with distinctly glaucous foliage is occasionally on offer.

CULTURAL USE/IMPORTANCE

Kahikatea is New Zealand's tallest indigenous tree. The white odourless timber was used extensively to make butter boxes, for much of the late 1800s and early 1900s. It was this practice which all but eliminated kahikatea-dominated swamp forest from the North Island and northern South Island.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 12 January 2004: Description adapted from Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.

Gardner, R. 2001. Notes towards an excursion Flora. Rimu and kahikatea (Podocarpaceae). Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 56: 74-75

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Dacrycarpus dacrydioides* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/dacrycarpus-dacrydioides/>

Pennantia corymbosa

COMMON NAME

Kaikomako

FAMILY

Pennantiaceae

AUTHORITY

Pennantia corymbosa J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

PENCOR

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 50

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A dense tangled shrub with zig-zagging branches bearing small leaves with 3-4 large lobes at the tip growing into a small tree bearing much larger leaves that still have small lobes at the tip (though these are less obvious). Juvenile leaves 7-15mm long, adult leaves 5cm long by 3cm wide.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Found throughout the North, South and Stewart Islands. Uncommon north of Auckland and on Stewart Island

FLOWER COLOURS

White

ETYMOLOGY

pennantia: After Pennant, a zoologist

corymbosa: Bearing flowers in corymbs

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Beddie, A.D. 1958. Precocious fruiting of *Pennantia corymbosa*. *Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin*, 3-: 12-14

Gardner, R. 1998. No kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*) on Great Barrier Island. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal*, 53: 75-76

MORE INFORMATION



Pennantia corymbosa. Photographer: Wayne Bennett



Pennantia corymbosa. Photographer: Wayne Bennett

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pennantia-corymbosa/>

Myrsine divaricata

COMMON NAME

Weeping matipo, weeping mapou

FAMILY

Primulaceae

AUTHORITY

Myrsine divaricata A.Cunn.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

MYRDIV

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 46

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Common tall shrub often with weeping widely branching twigs bearing small heart-shaped spotted leaves that have a dark blotch at the base. Twigs often curved downwards. Leaves 5-15mm long by 5-10mm wide, in clusters along twigs. Fruit pale purple to black.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South, Stewart and Auckland Islands. Uncommon north of the Waikato.

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

ETYMOLOGY

myrsine: Myrrh

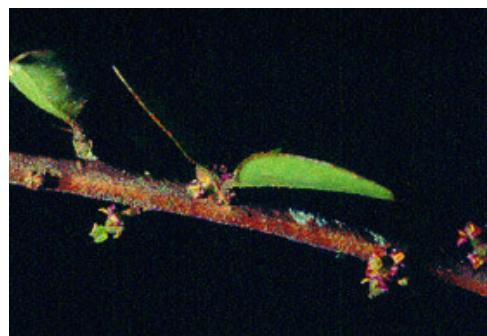
divaricata: Spreading or branching at wide angles

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myrsine-divaricata/>



Pisa Range. Photographer: John Barkla



Mt Ruapehu, September. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

Carex virgata

COMMON NAME

Swamp sedge, pukio, toitoi, toetoe

SYNONYMS

Carex paniculata var. *virgata* (Boott) Cheeseman; *Carex appressa* var. *virgata* (Boott) Kük.

FAMILY

Cyperaceae

AUTHORITY

Carex virgata Sol. ex Boott

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Sedges

NVS CODE

CARVIR

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands.

HABITAT

Widespread from sea level to about 1000 m a.s.l. in open, swampy conditions and also in damp sites within lowland forest. In parts of the country this sedge is often the dominant carice of lowland alluvial forest.

FEATURES

Rhizomatous, densely clumped to tussock-forming sedge. Rhizome 5 mm. diameter. Culms 150–900 mm. x c.1.5 mm, trigonous, grooved, harshly scabrid; basal sheaths shining, grey-brown to dark brown, sometimes black. Lvs much > culms, 0.5–1.2 m tall, 1.5–4.5 mm wide, channelled, light green, harsh and rigid, keel and margins strongly scabrid. Inflorescence a narrow 100–260 mm long panicle with stiff erect branchlets, the lower-most quite distant. Spikes, androgynous, 4–6 mm. long, sessile, grey- or yellow-brown, male flowers terminal, lower spikes on each branchlet subtended by a pale membranous bract with a long scabrid awn often > spike. Glume ± = or slightly < utricles, membranous, ovate, acute, dull brown, with a prominent pale midrib, this often scabrid in lowermost glumes. Utricles 2.0–2.5 x c.1.0 mm, plano-convex, ovoid, light grey with distinct brown nerves; tapering to a brown beak c.0.5 mm long with a bifid orifice and conspicuously denticulate margins; abruptly contracted to a narrow stipe c.0.2 mm. long. Stigmas 2. Nut slightly > 1 mm. long, biconvex, ovoid, dark brown.



Coromandel, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Coromandel, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

SIMILAR TAXA

Carex virgata most closely resembles *C. appressa* R.Br., especially as the inflorescence of both species is a stiff contracted panicle, further, both species have similar distinctly nerved utricles. However, *C. virgata* has more slender culms, narrower leaves and paler brown, less dense-flowered panicles. Plants of *C. virgata* could also be confused with *C. secta* Boott as they can occasionally become elevated on trunks formed by matted rhizomes and semi-decayed culms. However, in such rare examples of *C. virgata*, plants never attain the height reached by *C. secta*. Further, the inflorescences of *C. virgata* are never drooping, and obviously branched, with the basal branchlets often distant.

FLOWERING

October - December

FRUITING

December - May

LIFE CYCLE

Nuts surrounded by inflated utricles are dispersed by granivory and wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and by the division of established plants. A fast growing sedge often popular in wetland restoration and riparian plantings.

ETYMOLOGY

carex: Latin name for a species of sedge, now applied to the whole group.

virgata: Twiggy

NOTES ON TAXONOMY

On the Chatham Islands *C. virgata* either hybridises with or appears to intergrade with *C. appressa*.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (10 August 2006). Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Carex virgata* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carex-virgata/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carex-virgata/>

Coprosma propinqua var. propinqua

COMMON NAME

Mingimingi

FAMILY

Rubiaceae

AUTHORITY

Coprosma propinqua A.Cunn. var. *propinqua*

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

COPPVP

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 44

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Very common bushy shrub (or low-growing mound in some coastal areas) with wide-angled branches bearing clusters of pairs of variably shaped dark green glossy narrow leaves. Young leaves with dark stalk. Adult leaves often curved sideways, 10-4mm long by 2-3mm wide, paler underneath and with 1-3 pits. Fruit pale blue.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy drupes are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

coprosma: From the Greek kopros 'dung' and osme 'smell', referring to the foul smell of the species, literally 'dung smell'

propinqua: From the Latin propinquus 'near, neighbouring', meaning closely related to another species

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309



Mingimingi. Eastbourne. June 2001.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Pauatahanui Inlet. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/coprosma-propinqua-var-propinqua/>

Aristotelia serrata

COMMON NAME

Makomako, wineberry

FAMILY

Elaeocarpaceae

AUTHORITY

Aristotelia serrata (J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.) W.R.B.Oliv.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

ARISER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Much-branched small tree with thin heart-shaped sharply toothed leaves flushed with pink on the underside

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands. Throughout, but less common in drier areas.

HABITAT

Lowland to montane forests. Often forming dense thickets following disturbance.

FEATURES

Dioecious tree to c. 10 m tall; trunk and branches upright, to 30 cm diam.; bark smooth, grey, spotted with lenticels; branchlets light to dark red, pubescent. Leaves opposite to subopposite; petiole slender, to 50 mm long, greenish often flushed pink; midvein conspicuous above, raised below; secondary veins obvious and raised below giving surface a wrinkled uneven appearance; lamina membranous, 5-12 x 4-8 cm, glabrate (pubescence may persist on veins below), broad-ovate, margin deeply doubly and irregularly sharply serrate, tip acuminate, base cordate to truncate, upper surface light or dark green, undersides pale green, frequently infused with purple or pink. Juvenile leaves larger. Inflorescences conspicuous, axillary, flowers 4-6 mm diam., in panicles 6-10 cm long, on slender pubescent pedicels 5-10 mm long. Sepals 4, ovate, c. 3 mm long, pubescent, pink; petals 4, 3-lobed (often deeply), c. 9 mm long, white to light pink to red. Stamens many, on glandular minutely pubescent disc, not exceeding petals. Ovary 3-4-celled, styles 3-4. Fruit a c. 8-seeded fleshy depressed-obovoid berry, 5 x 4 mm, bright red to black. Seed irregularly angled, ventral surface flattened, circular or broadly elliptic, 1.9-3.1 mm, surface irregular, aril absent.



Waikuku, Aorangi. Photographer: John Sawyer



December 1981. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

SIMILAR TAXA

Superficial similarity to *Entelea arborescens* which is only found in northern New Zealand and which has a single (usually) cork trunk and a less sharply-toothed margin. The leaves of this species are never pink-flushed. Superficial similarity also to *Hoheria* and *Plagianthus* species, but the bark of these species falls in thin stringy strips (this is also evident when branchlets are broken).

FLOWERING

September-December

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

FRUITING

November-January

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

aristotelia: Named after Aristotle, the Greek philosopher and polymath

serrata: Saw-toothed

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961), Heenan and de Lange (2006), Eagle (2000) and Webb and Simpson (2001).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Government Printer, Wellington

Heenan, P.B, de Lange, P.J. 2006. *Pseudowintera insperata* (Winteraceae), an overlooked and rare new species from northern New Zealand. NZ J. Botany 44: 89-98

Eagle, A. 2000. Eagle's complete trees and shrubs of NZ. Te Papa Press, Wellington

Webb, C.J. & Simpson, M.J.A. 2001. Seeds of NZ gymnosperms and dicotyledons. Manuka Press, Christchurch.

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Aristotelia serrata* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/aristotelia-serrata/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/aristotelia-serrata/>

Cordyline australis

COMMON NAME

Cabbage tree, ti, ti kouka, palm lily

SYNONYMS

Dracaena australis Forst.f., *Dracaenopsis australis* (Forst.f.) Planchon

FAMILY

Asparagaceae

AUTHORITY

Cordyline australis (Forst.f.) Endl.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Monocotyledons

NVS CODE

CORAUS

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 38

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Common palm-like tree with an erect trunk branching into tufts of tough long narrow pointed leaves and with bushy sprays of small white flowers. Bark rough. Leaves 30-100cm long, only slightly tapered at base, dead leaves often forming a skirt around branches. Fruit small, white.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Common in the North, South and Stewart Islands. Probably naturalised on the Chatham Islands.

HABITAT

Widespread and common from coastal to montane forest. Most commonly encountered on alluvial terraces within riparian forest.



Cordyline australis. Photographer: Wayne Bennett



Cabbage tree. Photographer: DoC

FEATURES

Tree up to 20 m tall, trunk stout, 1.5-2 m diam, many-branched above (prior to flowering, trunk slender and solitary, branching happens after the first flowering). Bark corky, persistent, fissured, pale to dark grey. Leaves numerous (0.2-)0.3-1(-1.5) x (0.2)-0.3(-0.6) m, dark to light green, narrowly lanceolate to lanceolate, erect to erecto-patent, scarcely inclined to droop, midrib indistinct. Petiole indistinct, short. Inflorescence a panicle. Peduncle stout, fleshy 40 mm or more in diam., panicle of numerous flowers, (0.6-)1(-1.8) x .3-0.6(-0.8) m, branching to third or fourth order, these well spaced, basal bracts green and leaf-like, ultimate racemes 100-200 mm long, 20 mm diam., bearing well-spaced to somewhat crowded, almost sessile to sessile flowers and axes. Flowers sweetly perfumed, perianth 5-6 mm diam., white, tepals free almost to base, reflexed. Stamens about same length as tepals. Stigma short, trifold.

SIMILAR TAXA

Could be confused with the northern, primarily offshore island *C. kaspar* and its close relative, the Norfolk Island *C. obtecta* (probably both these should be merged). From these it can be distinguished by the larger heavily branched tree form, narrower leaves with a rather smaller, ill-defined, flat petiole, and smaller seeds. *C. australis* is rather variable, and some northerly offshore islands forms of it are either hybrids with, or might be better placed with *C. kaspar*.

FLOWERING

(September-) October-December (-January)

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

(December-) January-March

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

One of the most widely cultivated New Zealand natives, very popular in Europe, Britain and the U.S.A. Easily grown from fresh seed (seedlings often spontaneously appear in gardens from bird-dispersed seed), emergent shoot, stem and even trunk cuttings. Very hardy and will tolerate most soils and moisture regimes but dislikes long periods of drought. Excellent in pots and tubs. Numerous cultivars exist that will suit any situation.

THREATS

Populations have been decimated from some parts of the country due to a mysterious illness linked to a Myoplast Like Organism (MLO) which is believed to cause the syndrome known as Sudden Decline. Plants stricken with this illness suddenly, and rapidly, wilt, with the leaves falling off still green. If the bark is peeled off the base of the tree near the soil line blackened or rotten spots are typically present. Once stricken with Sudden Decline there is no cure and the trees can die within days. Recently there has been some evidence to suggest the severity of Sudden Decline is lessening.

ETYMOLOGY

cordyline: From the Greek *kordyle* 'club'

australis: Southern

WHERE TO BUY

Common in cultivation, and widely sold both within New Zealand and around the world.

NOTES ON THEIR STATUS

Cabbage trees, because they are very resilient are often the last indigenous plant to persist within cleared land. However, even these specimens will over time die, and unless such remnants are fenced as the young seedlings are greedily eaten by livestock. Cabbage trees remain a common and thriving species within much of the more highly modified ecosystems of coastal and lowland New Zealand. Recently there has been some evidence to suggest the severity of Sudden Decline is lessening.

FORAGING FOR CABBAGE TREE

Click on the Radio New Zealand National logo to listen to This Way Up. Simon Morton interviews Johanna Knox about foraging for *Cordyline australis* - the cabbage tree or *Ti Kouka* (duration: 13'35").

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Beever, R. et al. 1996. Sudden decline of cabbabe tree. NZ Journal of Ecology, 20(1): 53-68

Duguid, F. 1976. *Cordyline australis* at Lake Kopureherehe. Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin, 39: 46-47

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Cordyline australis* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cordyline-australis/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cordyline-australis/>

Fuchsia excorticata

COMMON NAME

Kotukutuku, tree Fuchsia

FAMILY

Onagraceae

AUTHORITY

Fuchsia excorticata (J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.) L.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

FUCEXC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Spreading small tree with thin flaky orange bark and bearing thin pointed leaves that are white underneath. Leaves up to 10mm long by 1.5-3cm wide, margin with small teeth, deciduous in southern areas. Flower colourful, in clusters from trunk or branches. Fruit dark purple, blunt at tip and base.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Violet/Purple

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by invertebrate frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

fuchsia: After Leonhart Fuchs (17 Jan 1501 - 10 May 1566), a German physician and regarded as one of the three founding fathers of botany.

excorticata: Loose-barked

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309



Franz Josef. Dec1981. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Christchurch. Oct 1981. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/fuchsia-excorticata/>

Austroderia richardii

COMMON NAME

Toetoe

SYNONYMS

Arundo richardii Endl.; *Arundo kakao* Steud.; *Arundo australis* A.Rich.;
Gynerium zeelandicum Steud.; *Cortaderia richardii* (Endl.) Zotov

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Austroderia richardii (Endl.) N.P.Barker et H.P.Linder

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

AUSRIC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 90

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Confined to the South Island. Possibly in the North Island, east of Cape Palliser. Naturalised in Tasmania.

HABITAT

Abundant, from the coast to subalpine areas. Common along stream banks, river beds, around lake margins, and in other wet places. Also found in sand dunes, especially along the Foveaux Strait.

FEATURES

Tall, gracile, slender tussock-forming grass up to 3 m tall when flowering. Leaf sheath glabrous, green, covered in white wax. Ligule 3.5 mm. Collar brown, basally glabrous, upper surface with short, stiff hairs surmounting ribs. Leaf blade 2-3 x 0.25 m, green, dark-green, often somewhat glaucous, upper side with thick weft of hairs at base, otherwise sparsely hairy up midrib with abundant, minute prickle teeth throughout. Undersurface with leaf with 5 mm long hairs near leaf margins, otherwise harshly scabrid. Culm up to 3 m, inflorescence portion up to 1 m tall, pennant-shaped, drooping, narrowly plumose. Spikelets numerous, 25 mm with 3 florets per spikelet. Glumes equal, > or equal to florets, 1- or 3-nerved. Lemma 10 mm, scabrid. Palea 6 mm, keels ciliate. Callus hairs 2 mm. Rachilla 1 mm, glabrous. Flowers either perfect (anthers 4.5 mm) or female (3 mm). Ovary 1 mm (perfect), stigma -styles 2.5 mm; female flowers with ovary 1.3 mm, stigma-style 4 mm. Seed 3-4 mm.



Kakanui Mountains, Otago. Photographer: John Barkla



Cortaderia richardii. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

SIMILAR TAXA

Closest to *Austroderia toetoe* form which it is best distinguished by the green rather than ivory leaf-sheaths, and by the green rather than ivory culm internodes. Also recognisable by the very slender, gracile leaves, culms and inflorescences. The inflorescences in this species are rather beautiful and resemble fine, narrow, pennants. Around the Foveaux Strait area and at Mason Bay, Stewart Island, some populations of *A. richardii* are distinctly rhizomatous.

FLOWERING

September - November

FRUITING

October - March

LIFE CYCLE

Florets are wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed (as a revegetation exercise ripe seed heads can be pinned to soil surface, and if kept damp, soon germinate) and division of established plants.

THREATS

Abundant and not threatened. Often naturalising in suitable habitats.

ETYMOLOGY

richardii: Named after Achille Richard (1794-1852) - a French botanist who described several New Zealand plant species

WHERE TO BUY

Commonly cultivated in the South Island, and offered by many specialist native plant nurseries. Not commonly cultivated in the North Island.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 October 2006. Description adapted from Edgar & Connor (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Manaaki Whenua Whenua Press, Christchurch.
Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Austroderia richardii* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/austroderia-richardii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/austroderia-richardii/>

Prumnopitys taxifolia

COMMON NAME

Matai, black pine

SYNONYMS

Dacrydium taxifolium Banks et Solander ex D.Don in Lamb., *Dacrydium mai* A.Cunn., *D. mayi* Houtte. ex Gord., *Podocarpus matai* Lamb. Ex Hook.f., *Prumnopitys spicata* Kent in Veitch, *Stachycarpus spicatus* (Mirbel) Masters, *Podocarpus taxifolia*

FAMILY

Podocarpaceae

AUTHORITY

Prumnopitys taxifolia (D.Don) de Laub.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

NVS CODE

PRUTAX

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 38

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands. Uncommon on Stewart Island.

HABITAT

Lowland forest. Often in drier climates, where it can dominate alluvial soils which are waterlogged/flooded in winter and dry in summer. Seems to prefer base-rich substrates and soils.

FEATURES

Dioecious conifer 25(-30) m tall. Trunk 1-2 m diam. Bark dark brown (almost black), falling in thick circular flakes, leaving a distinctive hammer-like scar patterning on trunk. Wood dark brown to rich yellow-brown, very hard. Juveniles filiramulate, with distinctive, dark brown, slender, flexuous, divaricating branchlets. Leaves brown, pale yellow, or dirty white, 5-10 x 1-2 mm, linear-lanceolate, apex acute; adults dark green, somewhat glaucous above, glaucous below, 10-15 x 1-2 mm, subdistichous, linear, straight to subfalcate, obtuse, often apiculate. Male cones (strobili) in spikes, 30-50 mm long, with 10-30 cones per spike. Ovules on short axillary branches, 3-10 per 40 mm long spike. Fruit a fleshy, oily, aromatic, terpene-tasting, purple-black drupe with a glaucous bloom. Stone more or less circular (5.5-)6-8.5 mm diam., surface dull to semi-glossy, pale orange-yellow to light orange-yellow.



Kowhai Bush, Wairarapa. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Matai at Rotopounamu. Photographer: Nick Singers

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily recognised by the distinctive filiramulate divaricating juvenile to subadult growth form, charcoal grey hammered bark, dark green to glaucous adult foliage, spicate male cones, and by the ovoid, plum-coloured drupes.

FLOWERING

(October-) November - February

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

Fruits take 12-18 months to mature. Ripe fruits may be found throughout the year.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Seed may take up to 2 years to germinate Can be grown from hard-wood cuttings but rather slow to strike.

THREATS

Not Threatened, although as a forest-type it has been greatly reduced through widespread logging. Very few intact examples of matai-dominated forest remain in the country.

ETYMOLOGY

prumnopitys: From the Greek prymnos 'hindmost' or 'stern' and pitys 'pine', referring to the location of the resin duct

WHERE TO BUY

Commonly cultivated and frequently sold by most commercial nurseries and outlets - usually from plants raised from seed, however some nurseries stock cutting grown plants raised from adult foliage, thus bypassing the filiramulate, divaricating juvenile growth-form. A very popular garden tree.

CULTURAL USE

Gum from the trunk is the basis for "Matai Beer", a deep, rich brew still made in some parts of the country. The dark, hard, durable timber is much sought after for floors and furniture.

ATTRIBUTION

Prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN, 3 February 2006. Description based on Allan (1961)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Prumnopitys taxifolia Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/prumnopitys-taxifolia/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/prumnopitys-taxifolia/>

Kunzea robusta

COMMON NAME

Rawirinui, kanuka

SYNONYMS

None - first described in 2014

FAMILY

Myrtaceae

AUTHORITY

Kunzea robusta de Lange et Toelken

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

$2n = 22$

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2013 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

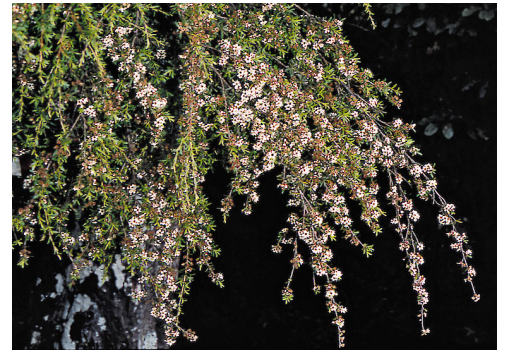
Widespread, common tree of North and South Islands. Bark usually basally detached long leathery strips. Branches bearing masses of green leaves and clusters of small white flowers. Branchlets usually copiously covered in silky, appressed hairs. Leaves variable in size (up to 28 mm long), soft to grasp. Flowers borne in 'corymbiform' clusters, white with a red centre. Fruit a small dry capsule 2.2–4.6 × 3.2–5.3 mm.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North and South Islands.

HABITAT

Coastal to lowland shrubland, regenerating forest and forest margins, also present in montane forest, ultramafic shrubland and very occasionally present in subalpine shrubland (up to 900 m a.s.l.).



Otari Wilton's Bush, Wellington. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Kunzea robusta in a young stand. Photographer: Peter de Lange

FEATURES

Trees 8–30 m tall. Trunk 1–6, 0.10–1.0 m d.b.h. Bark stringy, or coarsely tessellated, coriaceous, firmly attached above, detaching basally, often hanging semidetached; peeling upwards along trunk in narrow to broad, tabular strips up to 4 m long. Branches initially erect, soon arching outwards and spreading; branchlets numerous, slender; sericeous, indumentum copious, hairs either long or short antrorse-appressed; if long, then weakly flexuose 0.15–0.38 mm long; if short, not flexuose, 0.09–0.15 mm long. In eastern Coromandel Peninsula and coastal East Cape to Mahia Peninsula, branchlet indumentum in mixtures of divergent 0.03–0.08 mm long hairs, and sparse, 0.1–0.2 mm long, antrorse-appressed hairs. In the Rangitikei region, branchlet hairs of seedling and juveniles divergent, short 0.04–0.10 μm long. Leaves sessile to shortly petiolate, light green or dark green above, paler beneath; oblanceolate, broadly oblanceolate, broadly lanceolate, lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, rarely elliptic to obovate; apex subacute to acute, rarely obtuse, rostrate or shortly apiculate, base attenuate to narrowly attenuate; lamina margin initially finely covered with a thin, interrupted band of spreading to antrorse-appressed hairs not or rarely meeting at apex; hairs shedding with age. Lamina of juvenile plants from coastal areas and northern North Island 14.6–28.4 \times 1.6–2.5 mm; from inland areas, 3.2–6.3 \times 0.7–1.5 mm; adult lamina of plants from coastal areas and northern North Island 4.9–20.1 \times 0.9–3.0 mm; from inland areas, 5.8–12.3 \times 1.2–2.2. Inflorescence mostly a compact corymbiform to shortly elongate 1–30-flowered botryum up to 60 mm long; extending near end of flowering season as an 4–12-flowered, elongate botryum up to 80 mm long;. Pherophylls deciduous or persistent; squamiform grading into foliose; squamiform pherophylls 0.4–1.2 \times 0.3–0.6 mm, broadly to narrowly deltoid or lanceolate, apex acute, subacute to obtuse, margins finely ciliate; foliose pherophylls 6.0–17.9 \times 1.1–1.8 mm, elliptic, oblanceolate, broadly lanceolate to lanceolate, apex obtuse, base attenuate; margin densely covered by antrorse-appressed hairs. Pedicels 1.2–5.2 mm long at anthesis. Flower buds pyriform to obconic, apex flat or weakly domed prior to bud burst; calyx valves not meeting. Flowers 4.3–12.0 mm diameter. Hypanthium 2.1–4.1 \times 3.0–5.2 mm, broadly obconic to turbinate, sometimes cupular, rim bearing five persistent calyx lobes. Hypanthium surface when fresh faintly ribbed and sparingly dotted with pink or colourless oil glands, these drying dull yellow-brown or brown; either finely pubescent with the ribs and veins conspicuously covered in longer silky, antrorse-appressed hairs, or glabrous; hypanthium similar when dry though with the ribs more strongly defined and clearly leading up to calyx lobes. Calyx lobes 5, coriaceous, 0.52–1.1 \times 0.60–1.4 mm, broadly ovate, ovate-truncate to broadly obtuse, glabrate. Receptacle green or pink at anthesis, darkening to crimson after fertilisation. Petals 5–6, 1.5–3.8 \times 1.3–3.6 mm, white, rarely pink, orbicular, suborbicular to ovate, apex rounded to obtuse, oil glands colourless. Stamens 15–58 in 2 weakly defined whorls, filaments white. Anthers 0.38–0.63 \times 0.18–0.32 mm, ellipsoid to ovoid-ellipsoid or deltoid. Pollen white. Anther connective gland prominent, light pink, salmon pink, yellow to orange when fresh, drying dark orange, orange-brown or dark brown, spheroidal, finely rugulose or papillate. Ovary 5–6 locular. Style 2.0–3.5 mm long at anthesis, white or pinkish-white; stigma broadly capitate, flat, greenish-white or pale pink, flushing red after anthesis. Fruits 2.2–4.6 \times 3.2–5.3 mm, maturing greyish white, obconic, broadly obconic to \pm turbinate, rarely cupular; hairy, (rarely glabrous). Seeds 0.9–1.1 \times 0.35–0.48 mm, oblong, oblong-obovate, oblong-elliptic; testa semi-glossy, orange-brown to dark brown, surface coarsely reticulate.

SIMILAR TAXA

Kunzea robusta is usually a tall tree (up to 30 m tall) inhabiting coastal to montane successional forested habitats; with the adult leaf surfaces glabrous except for the margins and midrib which are more or less finely covered with a thin, often interrupted band of deciduous hairs tending toward glabrate; and with inflorescences that are initially corymbiform, often elongating toward end of flowering season; and bearing foliose and squamiform, mostly deciduous pherophylls .

FLOWERING

August–June

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

FRUITING

Jul–May

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Can be grown with great difficulty from semi-hardwood cuttings.

THREATS

Myrtle Rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) is an invasive fungus which threatens native myrtle species - learn more myrtlerust.org.nz

ETYMOLOGY

kunzea: Named after Gustav Kunze (4 October 1793, Leipzig -30 April 1851), 19th century German botanist from Leipzig who was a German professor of zoology, an entomologist with an interest mainly in ferns and orchids

robusta: Sturdy

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Due to website space limitations the description of *Kunzea robusta* provided here is much abridged from that offered in de Lange (2014). As circumscribed by de Lange (2014) remains a variable species, and that treatment recognises three races which may warrant further study. *Kunzea robusta* is the most widespread, common New Zealand species, and it is not only highly variable, but readily forms hybrids with other *Kunzea* in disturbed habitats. Nevertheless, even in hybrid zones branchlet hairs and bark characters will help distinguish this species.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 10 September 2014. Description modified from de Lange (2014).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

de Lange, P.J. 2014: A revision of the New Zealand *Kunzea ericoides* (Myrtaceae) complex. *Phytokeys* 40: 185p doi: 10.3897/phytokeys.40.7973.

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Kunzea robusta* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/kunzea-robusta/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/kunzea-robusta/>

Plagianthus regius subsp. regius

COMMON NAME

Manatu, ribbonwood, lowland ribbonwood

SYNONYMS

Philippodendrum regium Poiteau, *Plagianthus betulinus* A.Cunn.,
Plagianthus betulinus A.Cunn. var. *betulinus*, *Plagianthus urticinus* A.Cunn.

FAMILY

Malvaceae

AUTHORITY

Plagianthus regius (Poit.) Hochr. subsp. *regius*

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

PLARSR

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Tall tree with soft jagged pointed leaves and long sprays of tiny yellowish flowers and small green fruit that fall as a unit. Wood soft. Leaves 3-7.5cm long, much wider at base. Juveniles with tangled twigs bearing shorter rounded leaves with blunt bases.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North, South and Stewart Islands

HABITAT

Coastal to lower montane. Often a prominent tree in lowland alluvial forest.

SIMILAR TAXA

Plagianthus regius subsp. *chathamicus* is very similar. It is endemic to the Chatham Islands and differs only from subsp. *regius* by the complete lack of the filiramate, divaricating juvenile growth habit typical of subsp. *regius*. Both subspecies are now present in New Zealand proper, and subsp. *chathamicus* is now often sold from garden centres as *P. regius*. So look for the divaricating growth habit if you want to ensure you have the appropriate plant for your area.



Plagianthus regius. Photographer: John Barkla



Rimutaka Rail Trail. Dec 2006. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

FLOWERING

September - November

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. However, seed is often difficult to obtain because it is usually damaged by insects. A very fast growing tree which is an excellent specimen tree for a large garden or park. Does well in most situations but prefers a fertile, moist but free draining soil.

ETYMOLOGY

plagianthus: Oblique or lop-sided flower (petals uneven at the base)

regius: Royal

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Wilcox, M.D. 2002. Lowland ribbonwood *Plagianthus regius* at Clevedon. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 57: 144-146

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/plagianthus-regius-subsp-regius/>

Hoheria angustifolia

COMMON NAME

Narrow-leaved Houhere

SYNONYMS

Hoheria populnea var. *angustifolia* (Raoul) Hook.f.

FAMILY

Malvaceae

AUTHORITY

Hoheria angustifolia Raoul

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

HOHANG

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Tall soft-wooded grey-trunked tree bearing masses of narrow sharply-toothed leaves and small clusters of white flowers that develop into dry papery winged fruits. Leaves 20-48mm long by 5-10mm wide (juvenile leaves much shorter and rounder). Flowers in groups of 1-8, on stalks 10-12mm long.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North and South Islands - mostly easterly from the Wairoa River Northland south to Southland. In the North Island scarce north of the Hawkes Bay, absent from Taranaki, Bay of Plenty and Auckland areas and from most of the Waikato. In the South Island absent from Westland and Fiordland.

HABITAT

A common mostly lowland forest species frequenting alluvial forest where it may at times be dominant. *Hoheria angustifolia* is often an important host for taapia (*Tupeia antarctica*).



At Carters bush, Carterton. January.
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Hoheria angustifolia Dunedin. Photographer:
John Barkla

FEATURES

Slender heteroblastic tree up to 18 m tall. Mature branches and branchlets ± glabrous; young branches and branchlets finely and densely covered in stellate-pubescence. Juvenile and sub-adults filiramate-divaricate, branchlets slender, pliant, ± interlacing. Leaves distant, fascicled, on very slender petioles, 1.0-2.3 mm long; lamina (2.0-)4.0(-8.4) × 4.0-7.5 mm, grey-green to dark green, broad-obovate to suborbicular, cuneately narrowed to base, dentate along upper margin. Adult leaves, less widely spaced, fascicled. petioles 4.8-5.3 mm long; lamina (including teeth) 20-48 × 5-10 mm; narrow, obovate, oblanceolate, oblong, lanceolate, apex obtuse to acute; margins coarsely spinulose dentate-serrate; teeth up to 4 mm long. The different leaf-forms may all occur on the same plant, often as reversion shoots on damaged mature trees. Flowers solitary or in 2-8-flowered cymose fascicles on very slender stellate-pubescent pedicels 10-12 mm long. Calyx densely pubescent, campanulate, 3.0-4.2 mm long, (3-)5-fid; teeth broad-triangular. Petals (5-)7(-9) mm long, white, obliquely narrow-oblong, notched. Stigma capitate. Anthers reniform. Carpels and styles 5. Mericarp semicircular, winged, main body 2.5-3.5 mm long, pale brown; wing 3.0-6.0 mm long, light-orange yellow, densely covered with stellate hairs near base. Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb & Simpson (2011).

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from all other *Hoheria* species by the heteroblastic growth habit in which the filiramate-divaricating juvenile form is long persistent, being usually seen as reversion shoots on mature trees. The mature leaves of *Hoheria angustifolia* are also much narrowed and more deeply toothed than any other species. However, where the ranges of *Hoheria angustifolia* and *H. sexstylosa* overlap hybrids between both species are common (these have even been formally named as *H. populnea* var. *lanceolata* - a "variety" many New Zealand botanists seem to think equates with *H. sexstylosa* one of its parents! Another expression of this hybrid found occasionally in the Tararua Ranges, Eastern Wairarapa, South Wellington Coastline and in parts of the Marlborough Sounds has even been referred to as a "new species" *Hoheria "Tararua"*. These hybrids can be recognised by their shorter, broader canopy and variable leaf dimensions which are intermediate between both parents - unfortunately introgressive hybrid swarms are frequent, and at times the hybrid dominates where one or more parents have been eliminated. Detailed research into these hybrid swarms using modern molecular methods is sorely needed to determine the extent of gene-flow as well as to characterize the nature of this hybridism.

FLOWERING

December - February

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

February - April

LIFE CYCLE

Winged mericarps are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed. Very fast growing and the diversity of foliage types exhibited by juvenile and adults can be very attractive. Due to its large size it is best for a big garden

THREATS

Not Threatened - though the northern North Island populations are small and few are on protected land

ETYMOLOGY

hoheria: Latin version of the Maori name houhere which refers to *H. populnea* and *H. glabrata*.

angustifolia: Narrow-leaved

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally sold by garden centres and commonly available from specialist native plant nurseries

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 3 April 2011. Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb & Simpson (2011).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I, Wellington, Government Printer.

Webb, C.J.; Simpson, M.J.A. 2001: Seeds of New Zealand Gymnosperms and Dicotyledons. Christchurch, Manuka Press.

Moorfield, J. C. (2005). Te aka : Maori-English, English-Maori dictionary and index. Pearson Longman: Auckland, N.Z.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Hoheria angustifolia* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hoheria-angustifolia/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hoheria-angustifolia/>

Myrsine australis

COMMON NAME

Red mapou, red matipo, mapau, red maple

SYNONYMS

Suttonia australis Richard, *Myrsine urvillei* A.DC., *Rapanea australis* (Richard) W.R.B.Oliv.

FAMILY

Primulaceae

AUTHORITY

Myrsine australis (A.Rich.) Allan

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

MYRAUS

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 46

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Common tall bushy shrub with bright red twigs bearing wavy yellow-green leaves. Leaves 3-6cm long, with an undulating edge. Flowers small, in clusters. Fruit almost black.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Three Kings, North, South and Stewart Islands.

HABITAT

Common tree of regenerating and mature forest in coastal to montane situations. Often common on northern offshore islands.



Fruit. Photographer: Wayne Bennett



Mapou. Photographer: Wayne Bennett

FEATURES

Shrub or small tree up 6 m tall. Trunk stout, 0.2-0.6 m diam. Bark dark black or purple-black, red on younger branches. Branchlets numerous erect to spreading, very leafy. Petioles stout, fleshy, 5 mm long, often red or green mottled red. Leaves 30-60 x 15-25 mm, dark green to yellow-green variously mottled or blotched with red, or purple spots, leathery, glabrous except for finely pubescent mid vein, obovate-oblong to broad-elliptic, apex obtuse, margins entire, strongly undulate, rarely flat. Inflorescence a fascicle, usually numerous and crowded, produced along branchlets and in leaf axils. Fixed female and inconstant male flowers on different plants, 1.5-2.5 mm diam., white, cream or pale green. Pedicels short, stout, dark red or purple-black. Calyx-lobes 4, sometimes heavily reduced, long persistent. Petals 4, lanceolate, obtuse, free, revolute. Fruit a 1-seeded drupe, 2-3 mm diam., purple-black to black when mature.

SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from all other New Zealand Myrsine by the small, purple/wine-red blotched or spotted, strongly undulating obovate-oblong to broad-elliptic leaves.

FLOWERING

August - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

FRUITING

September - May

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed. Can be grown from semi-hardwood cuttings but tricky. Best results are obtained using a mist unit.

ETYMOLOGY

myrsine: Myrrh

australis: Southern

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally cultivated. Easily grown in a wide range of habitats, making an ideal hedge or small specimen tree. Sometimes available from mainline commercial nurseries, and commonly sold by specialist native plant nurseries.

KEYSTONE IMPORTANCE

One of three known hosts for Adams mistletoe (*Trilepidea adamsii*).

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 28 October 2009. Description based on Allan (1961)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Myrsine australis Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myrsine-australis/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myrsine-australis/>

Griselinia littoralis

COMMON NAME

Broadleaf, kapuka, papauma

FAMILY

Griselinaceae

AUTHORITY

Griselinia littoralis Raoul

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

GRILIT

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 36

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Bushy tree with a rough dark trunk bearing thick glossy green rounded leaves that are paler underneath on a yellowish stem. Leaves 5-10cm long by 2-5cm, base slightly uneven. Flowers small, yellowish or cream. Fruit dark purple, 6-7mm long, with a small ring at tip, arranged in a spike.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

griselinia: After Grisellini

littoralis: From the Latin littus 'shore', meaning shore-loving or growing on the shore

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11: 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/griselinia-littoralis/>



Coromandel, October. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Coromandel, October. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

Pseudopanax crassifolius

COMMON NAME

Horoeaka, lancewood

SYNONYMS

Aralia crassifolia Sol. ex A.Cunn., *Panax crassifolium* (Sol.) Decne et Planchon, *Panax longissimum* Hook.f., *Panax coriaceum* Regel, *Hedera crassifolia* Gray

FAMILY

Araliaceae

AUTHORITY

Pseudopanax crassifolius (Sol. ex A.Cunn.) C.Koch

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

PSECRA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 48

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Small tree with distinctive draped thick long narrow toothed juvenile leaves

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands. Widespread and common

HABITAT

Lowland to montane forest. Sealevel to c. 750 m a.s.l.



Makarora Valley. March. Photographer: John Sawyer



Rimutaka Rail Trail. Dec 2006. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

FEATURES

Bushy topped tree to 15 m tall, branchlets fleshy, trunk us. unbranched in lower part, to 50 cm diam., distinctly ridged when young, bark dark becoming paler with age, wood tough. Leaves alternate; leaflets 1-3 in seedling, palmate, sessile or subsessile on very short petiolule, submembranous coarsely toothed, absent from juvenile and adult. Juvenile leaves dark green, narrow-linear, deflexed, to 1 m long, coriaceous, midrib pale cream-yellow, raised, margins distantly sharply toothed, distal margin of tooth perpendicular to midvein, not swollen. Adult leaves shorter, 10-20 x 2-3 cm, dark green, very occ. trifoliate (probably due to hybridisation with oither species), narrow elliptic-cuneate to lanceolate or linear-obovate, acute or obtuse, margins entire to sunuate or coarsely serrate, subsessile or on petioles to 10 mm long, petiole base expanded around stem. Inflorescence a terminal umbel, irregularly compound; primary rays (branchlets) 5-10, c. 6 cm long; umbellules sometimes racemosely arranged. Ovary 5-loculed, each containing 1 ovule; style branches 5, connate, tips sometimes free. Fruit fleshy, subglobose, 4-5 mm diam., style branches retained on an apical disc, dark purple when ripe. Seeds 4-5 per fruit, easily separated, broadly ovate, grooved, 2.2-3.5(-5.5) mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Usually only confused with the rarer *Pseudopanax ferox* which has rounded discoloured teeth on the juvenile leaves, and darker brown adult leaves. *Pseudopanax ferox* also has a larger fruit.

FLOWERING

January-April

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

FRUITING

January-April

ETYMOLOGY

pseudopanax: False cure

crassifolius: From the Latin crassus' thick and folius 'leaf'

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb and Simpson (2001).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961. Flora of NZ, Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington

Webb, C.J. & Simpson, M.J.A. 2001. Seeds of NZ gymnosperms and dicotyledons. Manuka Press, Christchurch.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pseudopanax-crassifolius/>

Carpodetus serratus

COMMON NAME

Putaputaweta, marbleleaf

FAMILY

Rousseaceae

AUTHORITY

Carpodetus serratus J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

CARSER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 30

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Small tree with smallish round or oval distinctively mottled (hence common name) toothed leaves; branchlets zig-zag (particularly when young)

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Widespread. North, South and Stewart Islands.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane (10-1000 m a.s.l.). Moist broadleaf forest, locally common in beech forest. A frequent component of secondary forest. Streamsides and forest margins.

FEATURES

Monoecious small tree up to 10 m tall. Trunk slender, bark rough, corky, mottled grey-white, often knobbed due to insect boring. Juvenile plants with distinctive zig-zag branching which is retained to a lesser degree in branchlets of adult. Leaves broad-elliptic to broad-ovate or suborbicular; dark green, marbled; membranous becoming thinly coriaceous; margin serrately toothed; tip acute to obtuse. Juvenile leaves 10-30 mm x 10-20 mm. Adult leaves 40-60 mm x 20-30mm. Petioles c. 10 mm; petioles, peduncles and pedicels pubescent; lenticels prominent. Flowers in panicles at branchlet tips; panicles to 50 x 50 mm; flowers 5-6 mm diam.; calyx lobes c. 1 mm long, triangular-attenuate; petals white, ovate, acute, 3-4 mm long. Stamens 5-6, alternating with petals; filaments short. Stigma capitate, tip dark; ovules many. Fruit an indehiscent subfleshy-fleshy capsule, 4-6 mm diam., black when mature; cupped in remains of calyx. Seeds many per capsule, in 3-5 locules, small, 1-2 mm long; testa reticulate.



Mikimiki, Tararua Forest Park. Jan 1994.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Mikimiki, Tararua Forest Park. Jan 1994.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

SIMILAR TAXA

Not likely to be confused with any other NZ shrub or small tree. Perhaps most similar to juvenile kaikomako *Pennatia corymbosa* which does not have mottled leaves and the leaves are only toothed in the top half (reminiscent of a ducks foot).

FLOWERING

November-March

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

January-February (though dried fruit present at any time)

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

carpodetus: Fruit bound together (girdled)

serratus: Saw-toothed

NOTES

This species is damaged by the burrowing larvae of the native puriri moth (*Aenetus virescens*). Caterpillars create burrows in the trunk and feed on cambium at the burrow entrance, creating characteristic diamond-shaped feeding scars. The caterpillar hides the web entrance with a silken web. Heavy feeding can weaken trees, in particular those with thin trunks. For more information about the life-cycle of the puriri moth and a list of other host species follow this [link](#). (Martin, 2010).

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Allan (1961), puriri moth information modified from Martin (2010).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961. Flora of NZ I. Government Printer, Wellington.

Martin, N. A. (2010). Puriri moth - *Aenetus virescens* fact sheet, retrieved from the website Interesting Insects and other Invertebrates.

http://nzacfactsheets.landcareresearch.co.nz/factsheet/OrganismProfile/Puriri_moth_-_Aenetus_virescens.html

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carpodetus-serratus/>

Glossary

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| abaxial | Facing away from the stem of a plant (especially denoting the lower surface of a leaf). |
| acerose | Narrow with a sharp stiff point. |
| achene | A simple, dry, one-seeded (one-celled) fruit. |
| acicular | Needle-shaped. |
| acidic | Having a low pH, opposite of basic or alkaline. |
| acrosopic | Pointing towards, or on the side of, the apex. |
| acuminate | Gradually tapered to a point. Sharply pointed. |
| acute | Pointed or sharp, tapering to a point with straight sides. |
| adnate | Fusion of unlike parts, e.g. stamens fused to petals. |
| adventive | A plant that grows in the wild in New Zealand but which was introduced to the country by humans. |
| agglutinated | Stuck together. |
| allelopath | An organism that releases compounds that are toxic to other species. |
| allelopathy | The release by an organism of compounds that are toxic to other species. |
| alternate | Attached singly at each node but changing from one side of a stem to the other. |
| alveolate | Honeycombed with ridged partitions. |
| amplexicaul | Clasping or surrounding the stem. |
| anamorph | Asexual fruiting stage, usually of an ascomycete fungus. |
| anastomosing | Rejoining after branching, as in some leaf veins. |
| annual | A plant that completes its complete life cycle within the space of a year. |
| annual evergreen | Plants that lose their over-wintering leaves rapidly in the first half of the growing season. Annual evergreens never present a leafless appearance, but are closer in a functional sense to a deciduous plant than they are to multi-annual evergreens. |
| annulus | Line of thickened cells that governs the release of spores from a sporangium. |
| anterior | Towards the front. |
| anther | The pollen-bearing portion of the stamen. |
| antheridium | Male reproductive organ formed on the prothallus of a fern. |
| anthesis | Flowering period from when the bud opens |
| apex | Tip; the point furthest from the point of attachment. |
| apices | Plural of apex. Tip, the point furthest from the point of attachment. |
| apiculate | Bearing a short slender and flexible point. |
| apiculus | A small, slender point. |
| apomixis | A form of reproduction whereby seed is formed without the usual mode of sexual fusion. |
| appressed | Pressed against another organ or surface. |
| aquatic | Growing, or living in, or frequenting water. Applied to plants and animals and their habitats. Opposite of terrestrial (land living). |
| archegonium | Female reproductive organ of a fern formed on the prothallus. |
| arcuate | Curved into an arch. |
| aril | An often fleshy appendage on the outside of a seed. |
| artificial thinning | Selectively removing vegetation to create gaps to facilitate natural invasion of native plants, or to plant later successional plants. |
| ascending | Growing obliquely upward. |
| asexual | Vegetative reproduction, lacking sexual involvement by sperm or egg cells. |
| attenuate | Narrowing gradually. |
| auricle | A small, ear-shaped appendage. |
| auriculate | Bearing a small, ear-shaped appendage. |
| autogamous | Self-fertilising flowers. |
| autotrophic | Of or relating to organisms (as green plants) that can make complex organic nutritive compounds from simple inorganic sources by photosynthesis. |
| awn | A stiff or bristle like projection often from the tip or back of an organ. |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| axil | The upper angle between the leaf and the stem. |
| axis | The longitudinal supporting structure around which organs are borne, e.g., a stem bearing leaves. |
| barbellate | Barbed, having or covered with protective barbs or quills or spines or thorns or setae. |
| basal | At the base. |
| basisropic | Pointing towards the base. |
| beak | A prominent extension of an organ. |
| bifid | Deeply split into two lobes. |
| bifurcate | Divided into two. |
| biosecurity | Preventing, eradicating, controlling and managing risks posed by pests and diseases. |
| biotic | Pertaining to the living parts of the environment. |
| bipinnate | With each primary pinna divided to the midrib into a secondary pinna. |
| biserrate | Doubly serrate. |
| blade | The flattened part of a leaf. |
| blunt | Not pointed at the ends. |
| bog | A quagmire covered with specialised plants including sphagnum moss, grasses, sedges, rushes, sundews, umbrella ferns and other plants; has wet, spongy ground, a marsh-plant community on wet, very acid peat. Fed only by rainfall. |
| bottleneck | A genetic term; refers to the fact that in smaller populations there could be lower genetic variability. |
| brachyblasts | Short shoots. |
| bract | A reduced leaf or leaf-like structure at the base of a flower. |
| bracteate | Bearing bracts: leaves or leaf-like structure reduced at the base of a flower. |
| bracteolate | With small bracts. |
| bracteole | A small bract. |
| bracteoles | Bracts directly below the flower. |
| brevideciduous | Brief (1 month or less) loss of most leaves from the canopy just before flowering or during flushing of a new cohort of leaves. |
| bryophyte | Plant group including mosses, liverworts and hornworts. |
| bryophytes | Plant group including mosses, liverworts and hornworts. |
| bulbil | A bud produced vegetatively on the stem or frond that is capable of breaking off and growing into a new plant. |
| bullate | With rounded projections covering the surface as if blistered. |
| caespitose | Growing in dense tufts. |
| calli | Circular, warty, stalked thickenings commonly found on the lip (labellum) of the orchid (plural of callus). |
| callose | Hardened or thickened. |
| callus | Stalked thickening on the lip (labellum) of an orchid. |
| calyx | The group of sepals, or outer floral leaves, of a flower. |
| campanulate | Bell-shaped. |
| canaliculate | With longitudinal channels or grooves. |
| canopy | The uppermost cover formed by the branches and leaves of trees or the spread of bushes, shrubs and ground covers. |
| canopy closure | Stage where canopies of shrub and tree species meet. |
| canopy manipulation | Selectively removing vegetation to create gaps to facilitate natural invasion of native plants, or to plant later successional plants. |
| capillary | Hair-like. |
| capitula | Plural of capitulum: A dense head-like inflorescence of many flowers as occurs in most Asteraceae (daisies). |
| capitulum | A dense head-like inflorescence of many flowers as occurs in most Asteraceae (daisies). |
| capsule | A dry fruit formed from two or more fused carpels that splits open when ripe. |
| carbon sinks | Carbon locked away, or sequestered e.g. by trees. |
| carpel | One unit of the female part of a flower that consists of a basal seed-bearing ovary joined to a receptive stigma by a stalk-like style. |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| cauda | Tail-like appendage. (pl. caudae; adj. caudate). |
| caudex | The axis of a woody plant, esp. a palm or tree fern, comprising the stem and root. |
| cauline | Belonging to the stem, as in cauline leaves emerging from the stem. |
| cerise | Bright or deep red. |
| chartaceous | Having a papery texture. |
| chlorophyll | The green pigment of plants. |
| chlorotic | Lacking chlorophyll, therefore yellowish, suffering from chlorosis. |
| cilia | Short small hair-like structures on a cell or microorganism. |
| ciliate | With small hairs (cilia). |
| ciliolate | Diminutive of ciliate, i.e., having very small hairs. |
| cladode | Flattened stem with the function of a leaf. |
| cladodes | Usually flattened, photosynthetically active branches, these may be leaf-like (e.g., <i>Phyllocladus</i>) or branch-like (e.g., <i>Carmichaelia</i>). |
| clavate | Club-shaped, gradually widening towards apex. |
| cleft | Having indentations that extend about halfway to the center, as in certain leaves. |
| cleistogamous | Flowers that self-fertilise without opening. |
| coherent | Sticking together of like parts. |
| column | Stamen and stigmas fused to form a single organ. |
| columnar | Shaped like a column. |
| composite | Many small flowers tightly packed together e.g., daisy flowers. |
| compound | Composed of several similar parts (cf simple). |
| concave | Curved inward. |
| concolorous | Of the same colour. |
| conical | Cone-shaped. |
| connate | Fusion of like parts. |
| conspecific | Individuals of the same species. |
| cordate | Heart-shaped with the notch at the base. |
| coriaceous | Leather-like; thick, tough, and somewhat rigid. |
| corolla | The whorl of petals of a flower. |
| corymb | Modified raceme where stalks of lower flowers are elongated to same level as the upper flowers. |
| cosmopolitan | A species or other taxonomic group that is distributed widely throughout the world. |
| costa | The midrib. |
| crenate | With rounded teeth (bluntly toothed) along the margin. |
| crisped | Margin tightly wavy or crinkled, curled or wavy. |
| cristate | With a crest. |
| crown | The growing point of an upright rhizome or trunk. This usually produces a tuft or ring of fronds. |
| crura | The two small projections at the mouth of a utricle in <i>Carex</i> . |
| cucullate | Hood-shaped. |
| culm | The erect stem of a grass. |
| cuneate | Wedge-shaped. |
| cupular | Cup-shaped. |
| cuttings | Stems and/or leaves taken from plants for propagation. |
| cyathium | A cup-like structure that surrounds the inflorescence in <i>Euphorbia</i> . |
| cyme | Inflorescence at the terminus of a branch and where new flowering branches emerge laterally below the flower. |
| cytorace | Populations (or infraspecific taxa) that differ in chromosome number or chromosome morphology, e.g., <i>Nematoceras trilobum</i> agg. has two cytoraces, a diploid and a tetraploid (in which the chromosomes are doubled). |
| cytotype | Populations (or infraspecific taxa) that differ in chromosome number or chromosome morphology, e.g., <i>Nematoceras trilobum</i> agg. has two cytotypes, a diploid and a tetraploid (in which the chromosomes are doubled). |
| deciduous | Marked leaflessness in winter, and greater than 90% leaves lost by beginning of spring flush. |

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| decrecent | Diminishing. |
| decumbent | With a prostrate or curved base and an erect or ascending tip. |
| decurrent | Attached by a broadened base. |
| decurved | Curved downward. |
| deflexed | Bent abruptly downward. |
| dehiscence | The time of opening at maturity to release the contents, e.g., a capsule releasing the seeds. |
| dehiscent | Splitting open at maturity to release contents (of a fruit). |
| deltoid | Shaped broadly like an equilateral triangle. |
| dentate | Toothed along the margin with the teeth pointing outward, not forward. |
| denticles | Minute teeth. |
| denticulate | Having a very finely toothed margin. |
| dichotomous | Divided into two equal branches. |
| digitiform | Finger-like. |
| dioecious | Having male and female flowers on separate plants of the same species. |
| diploid | With two complete sets of chromosomes in each cell. |
| disarticulating | Separating at a joint. |
| discoïd | Disc-shaped. |
| disjunct | A species or other taxonomic group that occupies areas that are widely separated and scattered and therefore have a discontinuous distribution. |
| distal | Toward the apex, away from the point of attachment (cf. proximal). |
| distichous | In two rows on opposite sides of the axis. |
| divaricating | Branching at a very wide angle with stiff intertwined stems. |
| domatia | Small structures on the lower surface of a leaf in some woody dicotyledons, located in the axils of the primary veins and usually consisting of depressions partly enclosed by leaf tissue or hairs. |
| dorsal | Of the back or outer surface relative to the axis. (cf. ventral). |
| drupe | A stone fruit, the seed enclosed in a bony covering (endocarp) which is surrounded by a + fleshy layer (mesocarp). |
| early successional species | Plants which are able to colonise an open area after disturbance but which are often temporary and are replaced by taller plants in time and shaded out. |
| echinate | Having sharply pointed spines or bristles. |
| ecological district | A characteristic landscape and biological community defined in the PNA (Protected Natural Area) programme. |
| ecological restoration | Attempt to reinstate original (pre-disturbance) state of a habitat, plant community or ecosystem. |
| ecosourced | Plants sourced from seed collected from similar naturally growing plants in the area of the planting site. |
| ecosourcing | Using native plants grown from locally grown seeds. Eco-sourced plants help to preserve the ecological distinctiveness of an area, and ecosourced plants fare better and are adapted to survive in the local conditions. |
| eglandular | Without glands. |
| elaiosome | Fleshy, oil-rich structure attached to seed that attracts ants which act as dispersers. |
| ellipsoid | Elliptic in long section and circular in cross-section. |
| elliptic | Broadest at the middle. |
| emarginate | With a notch at the apex. |
| emarginated | Having a shallow notch at the tip, as in some petals and leaves. |
| emergent | In an aquatic sense - wetland herbs that are rooted in the substrate below water level, but carry leaves and stems above the water level e.g. rushes and raupo. Found on the shallow margins of lakes, ponds and waterways. In a forest sense - tree that is appearing above the surrounding canopy. |
| emergent marginals | An aquatic plant having most of its structure above water. Other aquatic plants are submerged or floating. |
| endemic | Unique or confined to a place or region, found naturally nowhere else. |

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| endophyte | An endosymbiont (usually a bacterium or fungus) that lives within a plant for at least part of its life without causing any apparent disease. |
| endophytes | Endosymbionts (usually bacteria or fungi) that live within plants for at least part of their lives without causing any apparent disease. |
| endosperm | The nutritive tissue of a seed, consisting of carbohydrates, proteins, and lipids. |
| enrichment planting | Returning to a revegetation site and creating gaps, or filling existing gaps, with different plants of plants, usually later successional plants which may not have survived being planted in the first phases of the project. |
| ensiform | Sword shaped. |
| entire | Smooth. Without teeth, notches or divisions. |
| entomophilous | Pollinated by insects. |
| epicalyx | Calyx-like structure outside, but close to, the true calyx. |
| epigeal | Growing on or close to the ground or emerging from the ground after germination (often used for cotyledons). |
| epiphyte | A plant that grows upon another plant but is not parasitic and does not draw nourishment from it. |
| epiphytic | Growing upon another plant but not parasitic and not drawing nourishment it. |
| erose | Irregularly toothed, as if gnawed. |
| estuarine | Pertaining to the meeting of freshwater and seawater wetlands. |
| ethnobotany | The study of people's classification, management and use of plants. |
| eusporangia | Sporangia that arise from groups of epidermal cells. |
| evanescent | Lasting a very short time or running a short distance. |
| ex situ | Away from the place of natural occurrence. |
| ex-situ | Maintenance of plants as live specimens or propagules in cultivation as insurance against the loss of wild populations and as source for material for translocation. |
| excurrent | Having the axis prolonged to form an undivided main stem or trunk (as in conifers). |
| extravaginal | Outside an enclosing sheath. |
| falcate | Hooked or curved like a sickle. |
| fastigiate | Branches erect and close to central axis. |
| fen | A type of wet land that accumulates peat deposits. Fens are less acidic than bogs, deriving most of their water from groundwater rich in calcium and magnesium. |
| ferruginous | Rust-like (a colour term). |
| fertile frond | Fronds that bear sporangia. |
| filamentous | Resembling a filament. |
| filiform | Thread like, resembling a filament. |
| filiramulate | Branching at a very wide angle with stiff intertwined stems. |
| fimbriae | Plural of fimbria: Fringe. A fimbria is composed of many fimbrillae (individual hair-like structures). |
| fimbriate | With fringes. |
| flabellate | Fan shaped. |
| flaccid | Limp, not rigid, flabby. |
| flange | A projecting rim. |
| flexuose | With curves or bends. |
| floccose | Having tufts of soft woolly hairs. |
| floret | A small flower, usually one of a cluster - the head of a daisy for example. |
| foliaceous | Leaf-like. |
| foliolate | Having leaflets. |
| founder effect | When a small number of plants (and therefore their genes) from a larger population are selected some genetic information is lost. |
| frond | A leaf, the complete leaf of a fern including the stipe and lamina. |
| fulvous | Orange-yellow. |
| funneliform | Funnel-shaped. |
| fusiform | Broadest near the middle and tapering toward both ends. |
| galea | Helmet- or hood-shaped. |

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| galeate | Shaped like a helmet or hood. |
| gametophyte | A plant that produces sperm and egg cells and in which sexual reproduction takes place - in ferns this is known as the prothallus. |
| gene pool | The mixture of all genes and gene variations of a group or population. |
| genetic diversity | The variety of genes in a plants or populations. |
| genetic variation | Differences displayed by individuals within a plant which may be favoured or eliminated by selection. |
| geniculate | Abruptly bent. |
| genus | A taxonomic rank of closely related forms that is further subdivided in to species (plural = genera). In a scientific name (e.g., <i>Sicyos australis</i>), the first word is the genus, the second the species. |
| gibbous | Swollen or enlarged on one side, as in a gibbous moon. |
| glabrescent | Lacking hair or a similar growth or tending to become hairless. |
| glabrous | Without or devoid of hairs, smooth. |
| gland | A structure that secretes a sticky or oily substance. |
| glandular | A structure that secretes a sticky or oily substance. |
| glaucous | Covered with a fine, waxy, removable powder that imparts a white or bluish cast to the surface. |
| gley | A soil prone to seasonal inundation. |
| globose | Globe-shaped. |
| glume | One of two bracts at the base of a grass spikelet. |
| groundwater | Groundwater is the water beneath the surface that can be collected with wells, tunnels, or drainage galleries, or that flows naturally to the earth's surface via seeps or springs. Groundwater is the water that is pumped by wells and flows out through springs. |
| gymnosperm | Plants in the class Gymnospermae that have seeds which are not enclosed in an ovary. |
| gynodioecious | A species population containing plants that produce bisexual (perfect) flowers, and plants that produce only female (pistillate) flowers. |
| gynoecium | The female reproductive organs of a flower; the pistil or pistils considered as a group. Means literally "womans house" i.e., the overall structure that contains the female sex organs. |
| hastate | Spear like. Shaped like an arrowhead, but with basal lobes pointing outward rather than downward. |
| haustorium | The absorbing organ of a parasite or hemiparasite. |
| hemi-parasite | Obtains water and nutrients from the roots of other plants but also manufactures food through photosynthesis. |
| hemi-parasitic | Obtaining water and nutrients from the roots of other plants then manufacturing food through photosynthesis. |
| herbarium | The place where collections of dried/pressed plants are kept. |
| hermaphrodite | Having both male and female sexual characteristics and organs. |
| heteroblastic | Exhibiting differences in leaf shapes or forms in juvenile and adult phases of the plant. |
| heteroblasty | The state of being heteroblastic (i.e., exhibiting differences in leaf shapes or forms in juvenile and adult phases of the plant). |
| hirsute | Hairy. |
| hyaline | Membranous, thin and translucent. |
| hybrid | An individual that is the offspring of a cross between two different varieties or species. |
| hybridise | Breeding with a member of a different plant or type. |
| hydrophyte | A plant species adapted to growing in or on water or in wet situations. Aquatic or semi-aquatic. |
| hymenium | The fertile, spore-bearing layer of a fruitbody. |
| hypanthium | A ring-like, cup-shaped, or tubular structure of a flower on which the sepals, petals, and stamens are borne. |
| imbricate | Overlapping. |
| imbricating | Overlapping. |
| imparipinnate | Odd-pinnate, a leaf shape; pinnate with a single leaflet at the apex. |
| in-situ | On site conservation relating to the maintenance of plants in the wild. |
| inbreeding | Genetic similarity in offspring of closely related individuals. |

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| incoherent | Not sticking together. |
| incursion | Entrance of a pest into an area where it is not present. |
| indumentum | A covering of fine hairs (or sometimes scales). |
| indusia | Plural of indusium, a membrane covering a sorus of a fern. |
| indusium | A thin tissue that covers the sorus in many ferns. Plural: indusia. |
| inflorescence | The arrangement of flowers on the stem. A flower head. |
| infundibuliform | Funnel-like. |
| interkeel | The space between the keel and the leaf blade. |
| internode | The part of an axis between two nodes; the section of the stem between leaves. |
| internodes | Part of a stem between two nodes. |
| intramarginal | Within or near the margin. |
| involucral bracts | The scales surrounding the flower head or capitula. |
| involucre | A group of bracts surrounding a flower head. |
| involute | With margins rolled inward toward the upper side. |
| irritable | Responding to touch. |
| jugate | Paired. |
| juvenile | A plant of non-reproducing size. |
| keel | A prominent or obvious longitudinal ridge (as in a boat). |
| labellar | Pertaining to the labellum: a lip; in orchid flowers referring to the middle petal which usually differs in size, shape or ornamentation from the two lateral petals. |
| labellum | A lip; in orchid flowers referring to the highly modified middle petal which usually differs in size, shape or ornamentation from the two lateral petals. |
| lacinia | A jagged lobe. |
| lacinae | Jagged lobes. |
| lacinate | Cut into narrow, irregular lobes or segments. |
| lacustrine | Of or having to do with a lake, of, relating to, or formed in lakes, growing or living in lakes. |
| lamina | The expanded flattened portion or blade of a leaf, fern frond or petal. |
| lanceolate | Lance-shaped; of a leaf several times longer than wide with greatest width about one third from the base, tapering gradually to apex and more rapidly to base. |
| lateral | On or at the side. |
| lax | With parts open and spreading, not compact. |
| laxly | With parts open and spreading, not compact. |
| leaflet | One section of a compound leaf. |
| lemma | The lower of two bracts enclosing the flower in grasses. |
| lenticillate | Bark that is covered in fine lenticles (breathing pores). |
| ligulate | Strap-like, tongue-shaped. |
| ligule | The membrane between the leaf and the stem of a grass; the "petal" of a ray floret in a composite inflorescence. |
| linear | Long and narrow with more or less parallel sides. |
| littoral | Occurring at the border of land and sea (or lake). On or pertaining to the shore. The shallow sunlit waters near the shore to the depth at which rooted plants stop growing. |
| lobe | A recognisable, but not separated, rounded division or segment of a leaf or pinna. Used to describe ferns and leaves in <i>Cotula</i> and <i>Leptinella</i> . |
| lobed | Part of a leaf (or other organ), often rounded, formed by incisions to about halfway to the midrib. |
| lobule | A small lobe or sub-division of a lobe. |
| lustrous | Glossy, shiny. |
| lycophytes | Seedless vascular plants that belong to the phylum Lycophyta (characterised by microphylls - primitive leaves found in ancient plants). |
| lyrate | Pinnatifid or pinnatisect terminal lobe much larger than lower lobes. |
| maculate | Blotched or spotted. |
| mangrove | Coastal wetland dominated by Manawa or mangrove <i>Avicennia marina</i> var. <i>resiiifera</i> . Northern New Zealand only, salt marsh replaces it further south. |

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| margin | The edge or border of a leaf. |
| marine | Pertaining to the sea and saltwater systems. |
| marsh | A tract of wet land principally inhabited by partially-submerged herbaceous vegetation. Has fewer woody plants than swampier habitats. |
| mealy | Dry, powdery, crumbly. |
| median | In the middle. |
| membranous | Very thin, like a membrane. |
| mid-lobe | The middle part into which a leaf is divided. |
| midrib | The central or principal vein of a leaf or pinna of a fern. |
| mire | Synonymous with any peat-accumulating wetland. Term covers bogs and peaty swamps, fens, carr, moor, muskeg and peatland. Term excludes marsh which is non-peat forming. |
| molecular techniques | Where proteins and genes are used to investigate plant relationships. |
| monitoring | Recording of quantitative data over time to document changes in condition or state of species or ecosystems. |
| monoecious | Having male and female flowers on the same plant of the same species. |
| montane | Land between 300 and 800 metres above sea level. |
| mucronate | Tipped with a short, sharp, point. |
| mucronulate | Having a very small mucro; diminutive of mucronate. |
| multi-annual evergreen | Overlapping annual cohorts of leaves always present. |
| multifid | Cleft into many lobes or segments. |
| multiseptate | With many septa. |
| muricate | Rough with short, hard points like the shell of Murex, a genus of tropical sea snails with elaborately pointed shells. |
| mycorrhiza | A symbiotic relationship between a fungus and a plant. |
| mycorrhizal associations | Symbiotic association between fungi and plant roots which assists plant health by allowing increased ability for uptake of nutrients and promote plant growth. |
| napiform | A long swollen but tapering root – like a parsnip, or carrot. |
| native | Naturally occurring in New Zealand (i.e., not introduced accidentally or deliberately by humans). |
| naturalised | Referring to plants that have escaped from cultivation (including gardens or forest plantations) and can now reproduce in the wild (without human assistance). |
| nectary | Organ that produces nectar. |
| nerve | Prominent vein or rib. |
| nerves | Strands of conducting and usually strengthening tissue in a leaves or similar structures. |
| net veins | Veins that repeatedly divide and re-unite. |
| net venation | Feather-like or hand-like venation on a leaf. |
| nival | Growing at high altitudes. From Latin: nivalis, snowy etc. from nix, nivis, snow. |
| node | The point at which leaves, branches or roots arise on a stem. |
| ob- | Prefix meaning inverted, in reverse direction. |
| obcordate | Heart shaped with the notch at the apex. |
| oblanceolate | Tapering and widest towards the apex or inversely lanceolate. |
| oblique | Slanting; of a leaf, larger on one side of the midrib than the other, in other words asymmetrical. |
| oblong | Rectangular. |
| obovate | Roughly elliptical or reverse egg shaped and widest near the apex (i.e., the terminal half broader than the basal half). |
| obtuse | Blunt or rounded at the apex, with the sides meeting at an angle greater than 90°. |
| operculate | With a small lid. |
| opposite | A pair of organs attached at nodes in pairs on either side of a stem or axis. |
| orbicular | Almost or approximately circular. |
| outbreeding depression | A reduction in vigor of offspring from distant parents. It can occur when a locally adapted population is moved and mixed with plants adapted to different conditions. |

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| outer canopy deciduous | Marked reduction in leaf number in the outer canopy in exposed high light environments over winter. |
| oval | Planar, shaped like a flattened circle, symmetrical about both the long and the short axis; about twice as long as broad, tapering equally both to the tip and the base. Synonymous with elliptical. |
| ovary | Part of a flower containing the ovules and later the seeds. |
| ovate | Egg-shaped and widest at base. |
| ovoid | Oval; egg-shaped, with rounded base and apex. |
| pakihi | A term which in its strict sense refers to open clears within forest dominated by low scrub and rushes. However, more usually used to refer natural and induced wetlands and their associated shrublands. A vernacular most frequently used in the West Coast for impoverished soils and their associated peats, left after forest has been cleared. |
| palea | The small upper bract enclosing the flower of a grass. |
| palea | 1. The upper of the two bracts that enclose each floret in a grass spikelet. 2. A small bract at the base of a disc floret in some plants of the composite family. 3. Scales on various parts of ferns (referred to as paleate or paleaceous). From the Latin word for 'chaff'. |
| paleae | Plural of palea, from the Latin word for 'chaff'. 1. The upper of the two bracts that enclose each floret in a grass spikelet. 2. A small bract at the base of a disc floret in some plants of the composite family. 3. Scales on various parts of ferns (referred to as paleate or paleaceous). |
| palmately | Radiating from a point, as fingers radiating from the palm of a hand. |
| palmatifid | Deeply divided into several lobes arising from more or less the same level. |
| palmatisect | Intermediate between palmate and palmatifid, i.e. the segments are not fully separated at the base; often more or less digitate. |
| palustrine | Pertaining to wet or marshy habitats. Term covers mires and marshes. |
| pandurate | Fiddle-shaped. |
| panicle | Highly branched (multiple raceme). |
| papilla | A short rounded projection. |
| papillae | A soft, fleshy projection, usually small and nipple-like. |
| papillate | With short rounded projections. |
| papillose | Warty, with short rounded projections or gland-dotted. |
| parallel venation | Veins are parallel along leaf. |
| parasite | An organism that derives all its nourishment from its host. |
| patent | Spreading or expanded, e.g., spreading petals. |
| peat | A mass of partially carbonised plant tissue formed by partial decomposition in water of various plants and especially of mosses of the genus Sphagnum, widely found in many parts of the world, varying in consistency from a turf to a slime used as a fertiliser, as stable litter, as a fuel, and for making charcoal. Partially carbonized vegetable matter saturated with water; can be used as a fuel when dried. A type of soil deriving from dead organic material situated in a wet area, where the reduced amount of [[oxygen available in the wet conditions results in the organic material not decomposing as much as it usually would do so in the presence of more oxygen. Used in growing media. Represents an important carbon sink –drainage of peat releases large amounts of carbon (CO ₂) to the atmosphere. |
| pedicel | The stalk of a single flower in an inflorescence or fruit (either in a cluster or existing singularly). |
| peduncle | The stalk of a solitary flower or the main stalk of an inflorescence or flower cluster. |
| pedunculate | Describing fruits, which are borne on a stalk (a peduncle). |
| pellucid | Transparent. |
| peltate | Shield-like, with the stalk attached well inside the margin. |
| pendent | Hanging down from its support. |
| pendulous | Hanging or drooping. |
| penicillate | With a tuft of hairs at the end, like a brush. |
| perennial | A plant lasting for three seasons or more. |
| perianth | A collective term for the calyx (sepals or tepals) and corolla (petals) of the flower, especially when these are indistinguishable. |
| petal | Part of flower inside the sepals; usually coloured. |
| petiolate | Having a petiole. |

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| petiole | Leaf stalk. |
| phloem | The vascular tissue in land plants that is primarily responsible for the distribution of sugars and nutrients manufactured in a shoot. |
| photopoint | A monitoring technique where repeat photos are taken of the same scene from the same point over a period of time in order to quantify changes. |
| pilose | Bearing long, soft hairs. |
| pinna | A segment of a divided lamina that is classified as primary, secondary or tertiary according to the degree of dissection of the lamina. |
| pinnae | Divisions of a pinnate leaf. |
| pinnate | With leaflets arranged regularly in two rows on either side of a stalk as in a feather; the lamina on a fern is divided into separate pinnae. |
| pinnatifid | Pinnately lobed, cleft more than halfway to the midrib. Not cleft all the way to the rachis. |
| pinnatisect | Pinnately divided almost to midrib but segments still confluent. |
| pioneer | Plant species are hardy species that should be planted first to establish a good canopy cover that restricts weed growth and promotes natural regeneration. In natural ecosystems these are the first plants to arrive and grow on a site. |
| pistil | The female reproductive organ of a flower, consisting of an ovary, style, and stigma. |
| pistillate | A flower with one or more pistils, but no stamens. |
| plano-convex | Flat on one side, convex on the other. |
| plumose | Feathery. |
| podzol | Infertile, acidic soil, strongly leached to form a whitish-grey subsoil underlain by a layer enriched in iron, aluminium and organic matter; usually under forest in a wet temperate climate. |
| pole | A subcanopy size individual with a long thin trunk and foliage tuft of a potential canopy tree. |
| pollinia | Compact masses of orchid pollen. |
| population enhancement | Increasing a population for a specific biological purpose, e.g., when a species is already present in an area but extra individuals are added to address a sex imbalance. |
| porrect | Extending forward. |
| procumbent | Lying and flat along the ground but not rooting. |
| propagate | To reproduce a plant by sexual (i.e., from seed) or asexual (e.g., from cuttings) means. |
| prostrate | A general term for lying flat along the ground. This includes procumbent (that is lying and flat along the ground but not rooting) and decumbent (with a prostrate or curved base and an erect or ascending tip). |
| provenance | The place of origin (of a plant that is in cultivation). |
| proximal | Toward the base or point of attachment (cf. distal). |
| pseudobulb | Thickened surface stem; usually looking like a bulb. |
| pseudoterminal | Falsely terminal – as in a bud which appears to occupy a terminal position but does not. |
| puberulent | Minutely clad in short, soft hairs. |
| pubescence | Covering of soft, fine hairs. |
| pubescent | Covered in short, soft hairs. |
| pungent | Ending in a stiff sharp point. |
| pustule | Small blister-like elevation. |
| quadrate | Square, rectangular. |
| raceme | An unbranched, elongated inflorescence with pedicellate flowers maturing from the bottom upward i.e., flowers attached to the main stem by short stalks. |
| rachis | The axis of an inflorescence or of a compound leaf. |
| ray | An outer ring of strap-like florets in the head of Asteraceae (daisy) flowers. |
| re-introduction | Translocating wild or cultivated individuals to sites where the taxon has been known to occur in the past, but from which it has disappeared. |
| recurved | Curved backward. |
| reflexed | Bent back on itself. |
| reniform | Kidney shaped. |
| repand | With a slightly wavy margin. |
| replum | The outer structure of a pod in which the valves have dehisced (persists after the opening of the fruit). |

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| restiad | Area dominated by rush-like plants (collectively known as restiads) of the family Restionaceae. Includes Chatham Island and North Island Sporodanthus and oioi (<i>Apodasmia similis</i>). |
| retorse | Pointing backward. |
| retuse | A shallow notch at the rounded or blunt apex of a leaf. |
| rhizoid | Any of various slender filaments that function as roots in mosses and ferns and fungi. |
| rhizomatous | With underground creeping stems. |
| rhizome | An underground stem (usually spreading horizontally or creeping) or short and erect. |
| rhombic | Diamond-shaped. |
| rhomboid | Diamond shaped, nearly rhombic. |
| riparian | Relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (as a river) or sometimes of a lake or a tidewater. |
| riparian margin | Refers to the edges of streams, rivers, lakes or other waterways. |
| riparian plants | Refers to plants found growing near the edges of streams, rivers or other waterways. |
| riparian zone | A strip of land next to streams, rivers, and lakes where there is a transition from terrestrial (land vegetation) to aquatic (water) vegetation. Also known as "berm". |
| riverine | Pertaining to rivers, streams and such like flowing water systems. |
| rootstock | A short, erect, underground stem. |
| rosette | A radiating cluster of leaves. |
| rostellum | In orchids, a modified stigma that prevents self-fertilisation. |
| rosulate | A dense radiating cluster of leaves. |
| rugose | Wrinkled. |
| rugulose | Having small wrinkles. |
| runcinate | Sharply pinnatifid or cleft, the segments directed downward. |
| runner | A trailing stem that roots at the nodes. |
| rupestral | Growing on rocks. |
| rushes | A group of distinctive wetland plants. They have solid stems (grasses have hollow stems), true rushes <i>Juncus</i> sp. have rounded leaves. |
| sagittate | Shaped like the head of an arrow; narrow and pointed but gradually enlarged at base into two straight lobes directed downwards; may refer only to the base of a leaf with such lobes; cf. hastate. |
| salt marsh | A coastal wetland, with specialized salt tolerant plants (halophytes). |
| sapling | A juvenile tree that has reached the stage of 1 or 2 main stems but is still in the shrub layer. |
| saprophyte | A plant lacking chlorophyll and living on dead organic matter. |
| saprophytic | Lacking chlorophyll and living on dead organic matter. |
| sarcotesta | The fleshy, often highly coloured outer layer of the seed coat in some species, e.g., titoki (<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>). |
| scabrid | Roughened or rough with delicate and irregular projections. |
| scale | Any thin, flat, membranous structure. |
| scape | A leafless flower stem. |
| schizocarp | A fruit which splits when dry, from the Greek <i>skhizein</i> 'split' and <i>karpos</i> 'fruit'. |
| schizocarps | Plural of schizocarp, a fruit which splits when dry, from the Greek <i>skhizein</i> 'split' and <i>karpos</i> 'fruit'. |
| scutiform | Shield-shaped. |
| sedges | A group of grass-like or rush-like herbaceous plants belonging to the family Cyperaceae. Many species are found in wetlands some are forest floor plants. Leaves are usually angular. Hence the saying "rushes are round and sedges have edges". |
| seedling | A newly germinated plant. |
| self sustaining | Able to sustain itself, or replace itself, independently of management i.e. regenerate naturally. |
| self thinning | Natural tree death in a crowded, even-aged forest or shrubland. |
| semi-deciduous | Partial leaflessness in winter, and greater than 50% leaves lost by the beginning of spring flush. |
| sepal | Outer part of flower; usually green. |
| serrate | Sharply toothed with teeth pointing forwards towards apex. |
| serrulate | Finely serrate, i.e., finely toothed with asymmetrical teeth pointing forward; like the cutting edge of a saw. |

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| sessile | Attached by the base without a stalk or stem. |
| seta | The stalk of a fruiting moss capsule. |
| sheath | A portion of an organ that surrounds (at least partly) another organ (e.g., the tubular envelope enclosing the stem in grasses and sedges). |
| silicles | The flattened usually circular capsule – compared with the narrow, elongated fruit (silique) – containing the seed/seeds. A term used almost exclusively for plants within the cabbage family (Brassicaceae). |
| silique | A capsule, usually 2-celled, with 2 valves falling away from a frame (replum) bearing. |
| simple | Of one part; undivided (cf compound). |
| sinuate | With a wavy margin. |
| sinus | The space or recess between lobes; in hebes a gap between the margins of two leaves of an opposite pair that may be present in the bud before the pair of leaves separate. |
| sorus | A cluster of two or more sporangia on the margin or underside of the lamina of a fern, sometimes protected by an indusium. |
| spathulate | Spatula or spoon-shaped, a rounded blade tapering gradually to the base. |
| spheroidal | Almost spherical but elliptic in cross section. |
| spicate | Arranged in a spike. |
| spike | Flowers attached to main stem without stalks. |
| spikelet | Collection of individual grass florets borne at the end of the smallest branch of the inflorescence. |
| sporangia | Plural of sporangium. Structures in which spores are produced. |
| sporangium | Structure in which spores are produced. |
| spore | A single-celled reproductive unit similar in function to that of the seed in a flowering plant. |
| sporophyte | The spore producing plant in ferns that is usually the visible part. |
| stamen | The male reproductive organ of a flower where pollen is produced. Consists of an anther and its stalk. |
| stamens | The male, pollen bearing organ of a flower. |
| standing water | Where water lies above the soil surface for much of the year. |
| stellate | Irregularly branched or star shaped. |
| stigma | Female part of the flower that is receptive to pollen, usually found at or near the tip (apical end) of the style where deposited pollen enters the pistil. |
| stipe | The stalk of a frond. |
| stipitate | Borne on a stipe or stalk. |
| stipulate | A leaf with stipules. |
| stipule | A scale-like or leaf-like appendage at the base of a petiole, usually paired. |
| stolon | A stem which creeps along the ground, or even underground. |
| stoloniferous | Producing stolons. |
| stramineous | Chaffy, like straw or straw-colored. |
| stria | A fine line or groove. |
| striae | Fine lines or grooves. |
| striate | Fine longitudinal lines or minute ridges. |
| style | The elongated part of the flower between the ovary and the stigma. |
| sub- | A prefix meaning under, somewhat or almost. |
| subglabrous | Very slightly, but persistently, hairy. |
| suborbicular | Slightly rounded in outline. |
| substrate | The surface upon which an orchid grows. |
| subtended | Immediately beneath, occupying a position immediately beneath a structure, i.e., flower subtended by bract. |
| subulate | Slender and tapering to a point. |
| succession | Progressive replacement of one species or plant community type by another in an ecosystem. |
| successional | Referring to species, plant communities or habitats that tend to be progressively replaced by another. |
| succulent | Fleshy and juicy. |

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| summer-green | Used in New Zealand to indicate herbs or sub-shrubs that die down to a root stock or rhizomatous network. |
| supplementary planting | Returning to a revegetation site and creating gaps, or filling existing gaps, with different plants of plants, usually later successional plants which may not have survived being planted in the first phases of the project. |
| surface water | Water present above the substrate or soil surface. |
| surveillance | Regular survey for pests inside operational and managed areas e.g. nurseries, standout areas on parks. |
| survey | Collection of observations on the spatial distribution or presence or absence of species using standardised procedures. |
| sustainable land management | The use of farming practices which are sustainable both financially and environmentally including management of nutrient runoff, waste disposal or stock effluent, reducing impacts of nutrients on waterways, preventing erosion and soil loss, and protecting native forest and wetland habitats from stock damage. |
| swamp | Low land that is seasonally flooded; has more woody plants than a marsh and better drainage than a bog. They are more fertile and less acidic than bogs because inflowing water brings silt, clay and organic matter. Typical swamp plants include raupo, purei and harakeke (flax). Zonation and succession often leads through manuka to kahikatea swamp forest as soil builds up and drainage improves. |
| symbiote | An organism that has an association with organisms of another species whereby the metabolic dependence of the two associates is mutual. |
| symbiotic | The relation between two different species of organisms that are interdependent; each gains benefits from the other (see also symbiosis). |
| sympatric | Occupying the same geographical region. |
| synangia | Structures made up of fused sporangia. |
| synonym | A botanical name that also applies to the same taxon. |
| systematics | The study of taxonomy, phylogenetics, and taxagenetics. |
| tabular | Shaped like a rectangular tablet. |
| taxa | Taxonomic groups. Used to refer to a group at any level e.g., genus, species or subspecies. |
| taxon | A taxonomic group. Used to refer to a group at any level e.g., genus, species or subspecies. |
| taxonomy | The process or science of classifying, naming, and describing organisms. |
| tepal | An individual member of the perianth. |
| terete | Cylindrical and tapering. |
| terminal | At the tip or apex. |
| ternatifid | Leaflets in threes,. |
| tetrad | A group of four. |
| tomentum | A hairy covering of short closely matted hairs. |
| translocation | The movement of living organisms from one area to another. |
| trifid | Divided into three. |
| trifoliate | Having three leaflets. |
| trigonus | Three-angled. |
| tripinnate | With each secondary pinna divided to the midrib into tertiary pinnae. |
| triquetrous | Triangular in cross section and acutely angled. |
| truncate | With the apex or base squared at the end as if cut off. |
| tuberculate | Bearing small swellings. |
| tubular | Tube-shaped. |
| turbinate | Top-shaped. |
| turgid | Distended through internal pressure. |
| type locality | The place or source where a holotype or type specimen was found for a species. |
| ultramafic | A type of dark, usually igneous, rock that is chemically dominated by magnesium and iron-rich minerals, the partially metamorphosed form of which is serpentinite. |
| umbel | Umbrella like; the flower stalks arise from one point at the stem. |
| undulate | Wavy edged. |
| undulose | Wavy edged. |

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| unitubular | A tube partitioned once – literally one tube (compare – multitubular – many tubes). |
| utricle | A thin loose cover enveloping some fruits (eg., Carex, Uncinia). |
| valvate | Opening by valves. |
| vascular plant | A plant that possesses specialised conducting tissue (xylem and phloem). This includes flowering plants, conifers and ferns but excludes mosses, algae, lichens and liverworts. |
| velutinous | Thickly covered with delicate hairs; velvety. |
| ventral | Of the front or inner (adaxial) surface relative to the axis. (cf. dorsal). |
| vermiform | Worm-shaped. |
| vernucose | Glossy, literally as if varnished, e.g., Hebe vernucosa has leaves than appear as if varnished. |
| verrucose | Having small rounded warts. |
| verticillium | A fungus disease that will cause wilting and death. |
| villous | Covered with long, soft, fine hairs. |
| water table | The level at which water stays in a soil profile. The zone of saturation at the highest average depth during the wettest season. |
| wetland | A site that regularly has areas of open water for part or all of the year, or has a water table within 10 cm of the surface for at least 3 months of the year. Wetland ecosystems support a range of plant and animal species adapted to a aquatic or semi-aquatic environment. |
| whipcord | A shrub in which the leaves are reduced to scales that are close-set and pressed against the stem. |
| whorl | A ring of branches or leaves arising at the same level around the stem of a plant. |
| whorled | Aranged in a ring around the stem. |