



Pittosporum huttonianum

Common Name(s):

Hutton's kohuhu

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island, Great Barrier Island, and the Coromandel Peninsula to about the Karangahake Gorge in the east. Also present from Te Akau south to about the Tawaroa Forest in the western Waikato.

Habitat:

Coastal to lower montane (1-700 m a.s.l.). Common in regenerating forest, or along ridge lines, on cliff tops, along slip scars, rock tors and in limestone country fringing razorbacks and dolines (tomo) shafts. Rarely as a sparse understorey component of mature forest.

Features*:

Gynodioecious, small, broad crowned trees up to 10 m tall. Trunk stout, grey-black to brown, lenticillate. Branches spreading. Branchlets dark brown, at first covered with floccose white, white-grey to faintly fulvous tomentum, glabrate. Leaves alternate, crowded toward branchlet apices. Petioles 5-15 x 1-3 mm, at first covered with appressed white tomentum, soon glabrate. Leaf buds copiously covered with white, white-grey or faintly fulvous tomentum. Lamina 40-120 x 20-60 mm, dark green above paler beneath, elliptic-oblong, obovate-oblong, apex and base acute to obtuse, margins entire, undulate or revolute emergent leaves copiously covered with white, floccose tomentum, soon glabrate. Flowers terminal, axillary or solitary, usually in (1-)2-4-flowered fascicles; pedicels up to 20 mm long, accrescent in fruit, white-tomentose, usually subtended by 1 or more cataphylls and 2-10 mm long, caducous, tomentulose or glabrous bud scales. Sepals 6-9 x 2-3 mm, oblong, acute, outer surface covered with floccose white tomentum, inner glabrous. Petals 12-18 x 3-4.5 mm, red, margenta, purple or white, oblanceolate, linear-oblanceolate, obtuse to subacute, free from base, recurved from about the middle; stamens 6-10 mm, anthers 1.5-4.5 x 0.8-1.5 mm. Ovary 2.5-5 x 1-3.5 mm, copiously white-tomentose; style 2-5.5 mm long, stigma capitate or truncate. Capsules 12-20 mm diameter, (2-)3-valved, trigonous, apiculate, coriaceous to woody, at first white-tomentose soon glabrate, somewhat rugose. Mucilage orange to orange-red. Seeds 16-25, reddish-black to black, of irregular shape.

Flowering:

October - November

Fruiting:

November - October (fruit present throughout the year)

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 30 August 2006. Description adapted from Cooper (1956).

References and further reading:

Cooper, R.C. 1956: The Australian and New Zealand species of *Pittosporum*. *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 43: 87-188

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1136



Caption: Kauaeranga valley, November

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth