



Rubus parvus

Common Name(s):

Creeping lawyer

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island only.

Habitat:

Montane to alpine - often riparian, usually in damp, freely draining, open sites growing with other low shrubs and herbs.

Features*:

Scrambling, much-branched, shrub, stems prostrate, up to 1 m long, rooting at nodes, terete, glabrous, unarmed when mature otherwise young stems reddish, densely to sparsely armed with small, pale red, orange-red to yellow prickles. Stipules minute, caducous, narrow linear-acute. Leaves on petioles 10-20 mm long, lamina 25-90 × 5-20 mm, unifoliolate, coriaceous, adaxially dark bronze-green to red-green, abaxially paler, linear to linear-oblong or narrow-lanceolate, acute, shallowly cordate at base (rarely with small lobes present), sharply serrate-dentate on margins; midrib sparingly prickly. Flowers in leaf-axils, solitary or borne in few-flowered panicles, peduncle up to 10 mm long, sepals 5-8 mm long, ovate, acuminate, pubescent. Petals 5, up to 10 mm long, white, ovate to broad-ovate, obtuse. Male flowers with numerous stamens, ovary rudimentary or absent. Female flowers bearing numerous carpels. Fruits 10-25 mm long, drupelets numerous, red. Endocarp 'seed' 2.0-3.1 mm long, surfaces conspicuously reticulate.

Flowering:

November - January

Fruiting:

January - April

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 18 October 2016. Description based on Allan (1961), Webb et al. (1988) and Webb & Simpson (2001)

References and further reading:

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

Webb CJ, Sykes WR, Garnock-Jones PJ 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

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

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1264



Caption: Berries of *Rubus parvus*
Photographer: Jon Terry



Caption: Creeping lawyer
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe