



## Veronica diosmifolia

### Common Name(s):

Hebe

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

North Island - Northern North Island, from Cape Reinga to Woodhill Forest.

### Habitat:

Lowland scrub, and at forest margins, often in near-coastal situations or near riverbanks.

### Features\*:

Bushy shrub (usually) or small tree (according to herbarium notes) to 2.5 (-6) m tall. Branches erect or spreading, old stems light brown to grey; branchlets green, puberulent, hairs usually uniform or sometimes tending bifarious; internodes (0.5-) 1-9 (-16) mm; leaf decurrencies evident. Leaf bud distinct; sinus narrow to broad, acute. Leaves subdistichous, patent; lamina narrowly oblong-elliptic or oblong or linear-lanceolate, rigid, flat or slightly concave, (3-) 8-20 (-30) x (2-) 3-6 mm; apex obtuse to acute or somewhat acuminate; margin ciliate (with eglandular and/or glandular hairs) and often minutely papillate, shallowly toothed (usually) or entire; upper surface green, dull, without evident stomata (usually) or with few stomata, hairy along midrib (usually) or glabrous (rarely); lower surface light green; petiole (0.3-) 1-4 mm, almost always hairy above and usually hairy along margins. Inflorescences with (4-) 10-54 flowers, lateral, with three or more branches (almost always) or unbranched (rarely, and never all inflorescences on a plant). (1-) 1.5-3.5 (-5.5) cm; peduncle (0.3-) 0.4-1.8 (-2.3) cm; rachis (0.4-) 1-2-3.1 cm. Bracts opposite and decussate or subopposite to alternate, ovate or lanceolate, subacute or acute. Flower, hermaphrodite. Pedicels longer than or equal to bracts, 1.5-4.2 mm. Calyx: 1.5-2.6 mm, 3-4 (-5)-lobed (5th lobe small, posterior), with anterior lobes free for most of their length or united between 1/3 and all the way to apex; lobes ovate to deltoid or elliptic, subacute to obtuse or emarginate (fused anterior lobes), usually with mixed glandular and eglandular cilia. Corolla tube glabrous, 2-2.5 x 1.5-2 mm, funnelform, longer than (usually) or equalling calyx; lobes pinkish-mauve or blue or white at anthesis, ovate to deltoid, subacute, patent, longer than corolla tube; corolla throat white or mauve. Stamen filaments 4.5-6 mm; anthers mauve or pink or buff, 1.2-1.7 mm. Ovary 0.8-1.1 mm; ovules approximately 9-11 per locule; style 4-8 mm. Capsules acute or subacute, 3.5-5.4 x (1.8-) 2.3-3.7 mm, loculicidal split extending 1/4-1/2-way to base. Seeds strongly flattened, broad ovoid or obovoid to discoid, not winged to only weakly winged, straw-yellow, 1.2-2 x 0.9-1.3 mm, micropylar rim 0.2-0.6 mm.

### Flowering:

(August-) September-January (-July)

### Fruiting:

(September-) October-May (-August)

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description adapted by M. Ward from Bayly & Kellow (2006).

### References and further reading:

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Bayly, M.J., Kellow, A.V. 2006. An illustrated guide to New Zealand Hebes. Wellington, N.Z.: Te Papa press pg. 252.

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Druce, A. P. 1980. Trees, shrubs, and Lianes of New Zealand (including wild hybrids). Unpublished checklist held at Landcare Research, Lincoln, New Zealand. (Copy also held in the library of the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington.)

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**Caption:** Hebe diosmifolia at Whatuwhiwihi, Karikari Peninsula  
**Photographer:** Bill Campbell



**Caption:** Hebe diosmifolia at Lake Rotokawau, Karikari Peninsula  
**Photographer:** Bill Campbell