



## *Raukaua edgerleyi*

### Common Name(s):

raukawa

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. North (Kaitaia southwards), South and Stewart Islands. Scattered and infrequent.

### Habitat:

Lowland to montane forest. Near sea level to 900 m a.s.l.

### Features\*:

Tree 10-12 m tall; glabrous, branchlets ascending, bark cream to pale grey, rough. Leaves alternate, in juvenile plants 3-5-foliolate; adult leaves single; stipules absent. Petioles of juvenile to 10 cm long, 1.5-5 cm long in adults, reddish. Juvenile lamina 5-15 x 1.5-3.5 cm, linear oblong, deeply lobed, lobes acuminate to acute, terminal lamina subsessile or shortly petiolulate, thin. Adult lamina becoming entire, 5-10 cm long, membraneous to subcoriaceous, obovate to elliptic-oblong, acuminate to obtuse, base cuneate, shiny dark green above, paler below, veins visible above and below, midrib raised, green above, reddish below and often bearing small hooks, aromatic when crushed. Inflorescence axillary, a raceme bearing three or more 10-15 flowered umbellules on short peduncles. Flowers 4-5 mm in diameter, green, in male or female clusters on same raceme; calyx minutely 5-toothed; ovary 2-4-carpellate; style branches (2)-3-4, connate, free at tips; stamens 5, projecting, < petals. Fruit fleshy, 3-4 mm, globose, green ripening to dark purple; style bases retained on apical disc. Seeds 3-5 per fruit, ovate to broadly ovate, straight along ventral edge, surface irregularly ridged and dimpled, 2.0-3.4(-3.7) mm long.

### Flowering:

September to December

### Fruiting:

October to March but some fruit may be present throughout the year

### Threats:

Heavily browsed by mammalian browsers. Consequently infrequently encountered throughout its range

### \*Attribution:

Description by M.J. Thorsen 29 October 2010 adapted from the references cited below.

### References and further reading:

Mitchell, A.D, Frodin, D.G, Heads, M.J. 1997. Reinstatement of *Raukaua*, a genus of the Araliaceae centred on New Zealand. *NZ J. Botany* 305: 309-315

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

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

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=202](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=202)



**Caption:** A rare example of cauliflory on *Raukaua edgerleyi*. Endean forest, eastern Mamaku Plateau.

**Photographer:** John Hobbs



**Caption:** Close-up of cauliflory on *Raukaua edgerleyi*. Endean forest, eastern Mamaku Plateau.

**Photographer:** John Hobbs