



Veronica stricta var. *macroura*

Common Name(s):

koromiko

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. Variable but as circumscribed here locally common in coastal situations from Cape Reinga to Wellington. An extreme form, with very large, broad, glaucous leaves, and a very flat almost creeping habit, and which has been segregated in the past as both *Veronica* or *Hebe cookiana* is endemic to the papa mudstone cliffs from Hicks Bay to Mahia Peninsula.

Habitat:

Strictly coastal where it usually grows on cliff faces and associated talus slopes.

Features*:

Shrub (0.2-)1 x 1(-2) m, sprawling to suberect or erect. Branchlets finely pubescent or entirely glabrous. Stem internodes longer than stem diameter. Leaf bud without sinus. Leaves, spreading, 50-100 (-110) mm, dull green or glaucous (if so then somewhat glossy), obovate-oblong, somewhat leathery or fleshy, apex obtuse, leaf margin usually entire, occasionally toothed. Inflorescence axillary, racemose, about length of leaves but often much shorter, and then obscured by foliage, sometimes drooping, all parts pubescent or glabrescent. Flowers densely crowded on raceme, rather sweetly (sometimes over powerfully so) scented, white (rarely lilac). Calyx-lobes oblong, obtuse. Corolla tube 4-6 mm, exceeding calyx, narrow, cylindrical, lobes rounded. Capsules < 5 mm long, glabrous, erect, suberect or drooping.

Flowering:

(July-) August (-October) but flowering can also occur sporadically throughout the year

Fruiting:

(September-) November (-January) but seed capsules may be found throughout the year

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 February 2005). Description based on Allan (1961) - see also Bayly & Kellow (2006)

References and further reading:

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

Bayly M. and Kellow A. 2006. An Illustrated Guide to New Zealand Hebes. Te Papa Press: Wellington

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2307



Caption: Opape, April
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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