



Scandia rosifolia

Common Name(s):

Koheriki

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Declining

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island, from the Three Kings south to Taranaki in the west and the southern Ruahine Ranges in the east.

Habitat:

Coastal to subalpine (0-1400 m a.s.l.). Usually on cliff faces, clay banks or amongst boulders, often found along cliffs lining river gorges, more rarely in scrub.

Features*:

Semi-erect to somewhat openly sprawling, woody, aromatic shrub up to 1 x 1 m. Stems much-branched, woody at base, dark green to yellow green when young, maturing orange-brown; at first ascending soon spreading, rarely scrambling or rooting from nodes. Leaves alternate, pinnate; petioles 5-20 (or more) mm long, subcoriaceous, slender, sheathing base broadly 2 lobed; leaflets 2-5 (-8) pairs, 25-80 x 10-40 mm, dark green, glossy above, paler and dull below, subsessile to sessile, obliquely ovate, ovate-lanceolate to narrowly lanceolate, acute to acuminate, margins finely to deeply serrated; each leaflet subtended by a narrow, fleshy pair of stipules. Inflorescences umbellate. Umbels numerous, compound, axillary and terminal, on slender peduncles up to 30 mm long, umbels up to 800 mm diameter (usually much less). Primary rays numerous, slender up to 30 mm long; secondary rays shorter, umbellules densely flowered. Flowers white. Calyx teeth narrow-triangular. Mericarps 3-4.5 mm long, yellowish buff to pale orange-yellow, dark yellow or orange, ovate to broadly ovate, oblong to broadly oblong to broadly elliptic or circular, surface semi-glossy, finely bullate or reticulate, ribs 5, the two commissural broadly and evenly winged or more broadly winged toward the base; style remnant erect and straight.

Flowering:

September - June

Fruiting:

November - August

Threats:

This species is extremely palatable and it is greedily consumed wherever plants are accessible to browsing animals. It is evident that the current conservation assessment of At Risk/Sparse while possibly biologically accurate is not longer appropriate. This species has declined from significant parts of its range, and while it is still at times locally common, in many locations it is now represented by only small scattered populations or even single plants. The largest populations reflect the situation, they are cliff bound in sites inaccessible to all browsing animals, even possums.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 August 2004). Description based on Allan (1961 - as *Angelica rosifolia*) and Dawson (1967)

References and further reading:

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

Dawson, J. W. 1967: New Zealand Umbelliferae. *Lignocarpa* gen. nov. and *Scandia* gen. nov. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 5: 400-417.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=314



Photographer: Rebecca Stanley



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