



## *Ackama nubicola*

### Common Name(s):

Turoa Onamata

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Threatened - Nationally Critical

### Distribution:

Endemic. North Island, South Hokianga, Waima Forest.

### Habitat:

Apparently restricted to secondary regrowth within cloud forest at altitudes above 500 m. At present this species is only known from one site where it grows within valley heads, along cliff margins, at the base of rock outcrops and at the interface between forest and rough pasture. Typically the species grows in dense stands of 5-20 apparently even-aged trees. Most seedlings and juveniles have been found as low epiphytes on tree ferns. However, because the sole habitat has been until recently accessible to cattle, it is more likely that the seedlings observed have been those that survived because they were out of reach of these animals.

### Features\*:

Small tree 5-15 m tall, multi trunked and often suckering from base. Crown spreading, canopy foliage silvery-grey when viewed from a distance. Bark pale greyish white, streaked graphite grey, firm. Branches stout, sparse, erect. Stipules interpetiolar, long persistent, 14 x 18 mm, butter-yellow or cream, basally flushed purple, orbicular, fleshy, margin entire. Petioles 35-40 mm long, pulvinate. Leaves compound, leathery, 140-300 x 50-140 mm, initially wine-red or pink, rather sticky, maturing dark green above, somewhat silvery green below, leaflets (2-)4(-11) pairs, petiolules 10-20 mm, dark maroon; leaflets 30-150 x 35-100 mm, with middle pairs larger than all but the terminal leaflet, basal leaflet pair truncate, other pairs except terminal leaflet truncate or oblique; terminal leaflet cuneate, up to 100 x 50 mm, margins serrated, leaf domatia inconspicuous, vestigial, of the hair tuft type. Inflorescences axillary, paniculate 80-100 mm long, suberect to pendent. Flowers perfect, on short pedicels. Calyx (4-)5 merous, valvate; 0.8 mm long, sepals oblong-deltoid, fused, sparsely covered in appressed hairs. Petals (4-)5, off white to pink, 0.8 x 0.2 mm. Stamens 10, white to pale pink; anthers 0.2 mm diam., cream. Ovary ovoid 0.8 mm diam., covered in appressed hairs, the two carpels free almost to base. Styles 0.8 mm long, pale pink, falcate. Stigmas 0.2-0.4 mm, crimson, punctate. Fruit a broadly cylindrical to globose capsule 2.4-3 x 2-2.7 mm, initially cream-coloured drying honey-brown or dark brown. Seeds 4(-6) per capsule, reddish brown, 0.9 x 0.4 mm, ovoid.

### Flowering:

Appears to be February - March (flowering has been observed twice since it was discovered in 2000)

### Fruiting:

Appears to be March-July, though exact time uncertain (fruit has been observed three times since the species was discovered in 2000)

### Threats:

Possums are the main threat as they severely defoliate the trees, thereby preventing flowering and fruiting.

### \*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (27 December 2002). Description adapted from de Lange et al. (2002).

### References and further reading:

de Lange, P.J.; Gardner, R.O.; Riddell, K.A. 2002: *Ackama nubicola* (Cunoniaceae) A New Species from Western Northland, North Island, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 40(4): 525-534

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=46](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=46)



**Caption:** Waima Forest and Hauturu Trig

**Photographer:** Peter de Lange



**Caption:** Waima Forest, Framptons

**Photographer:** Peter de Lange