



Pseudopanax chathamicus

Common Name(s):

hoho, Chatham Island lancewood

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Chatham Islands only.

Habitat:

A tree species found in most Chatham Island forests, more common in coastal forest where the soil is moist for much of the year. Hoho often occurs in gullies or on gentle slopes, with karamu and matipo.

Features*:

Small tree to 7(-12) m tall, lower trunk us. unbranched, branchlets fleshy. Leaves alternate, leaflets absent, ascending-spreading (not deflexed in young plants). Petioles c. 15-20 cm long, sheathing branchlet at base. Leaves of juvenile 5-15 cm long, lanceolate to oblong, cuneately narrowed to short petiole, acute to subacute, coarsely serrate in upper part only; leaves of young adult thicker, subcoriaceous, 15-30 x 3-3.5 cm, variable in shape on same plant, oblong to elliptic- to obovate-oblong, distinctly apiculate, margins serrate to sinuate to nearly entire; adult leaves similar but shorter (10-15 cm long), thicker, margins smoother, and on petiole 10-20 mm long, midrib prominent, veins evident. Inflorescence an umbel, terminal, compound; staminate (male) with 5-10 primary rays, c. 5 cm long, flowers racemosely arranged; pistillate (female) with shorter primary rays, umbellules 2-5 (or more) flowered. Ovary 5-loculed, 5-ovuled, style branches connate. Fruit fleshy, broad-oblong, 6-5 mm diam., rounded style branches retained on an apical disc, very dark purple. Seeds 5 per fruit (often only 1 or 2 viable), grooved on lateral face, 4-6(-7) mm long.

Flowering:

October - May

Fruiting:

November - September

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange 28 May 2004.
Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb & Simpson (2001).

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961. Flora of NZ, Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

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

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=646



Caption: *Pseudopanax chathamicus* flowers

Photographer: Peter de Lange



Caption: *Pseudopanax chathamicus* seedlings

Photographer: Peter de Lange