

Forest remnant on corner of SH3 and Reynolds Road, just north of Turakina

Wanganui Plant List No. 155

C C Ogle, D Morton & H Wilson, 1 Dec 2002

The forest is mostly on the south slopes of a small valley, much of it visible from SH3. In this district it is one of the closest patches of natural forest to the coast, although few plants here reflect a coastal influence. Titoki and mahoe are the dominant trees, with mostly divaricating shrubs in the understorey; ground cover is mostly sparse, although many shrub and tree seedlings show potential if they were allowed to grow without browsing. Stock (sheep only?) have access to much of the forest although grazing levels are light. There is some control of possums so that the crowns of trees such as titoki look healthy. Palatable young trees and shrubs such as lancewood, hangehange, and large-leaved *Coprosma* species, and also sedges and some ferns (e.g. mamaku tree ferns) grow only in places where sheep cannot reach readily. A number of native tree and shrub species, including pukatea, occur as only single specimens but would regenerate if stock were excluded. Others occur as two or three specimens only.

Most of the species recorded are common in forest remnants of the district. However, two species, a grass and a sedge, are quite rare in the district though more common in the northern North Island, especially the grass. The creeping grass is *Oplismenus hirtellus* subspecies *imbecillus* and the tufted grass-like sedge is *Carex spirostris*. *C. spirostris* has been found just three times near Wanganui (St John's Hill Green Belt, Brunswick and Kai-iwi) then in North Taranaki, Palmerston North, Manawatu Gorge and Ruahine Range. It grows on dry banks in forest. Two species of fern here, *Asplenium colensoi* and velvet fern (*Lastreopsis velutina*), are seen only occasionally in this district; the latter is mainly found in coastal forest.

u = uncommon

p = planted only

p+ = planted and naturally occurring here

* = exotic species (exotic species were not listed systematically, but one or two were noted)

Gymnosperm

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides (kahikatea)	6 or more trees
Podocarpus totara	p

Dicot trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus (titoki)	
Beilschmiedia tawa (tawa)	
Brachyglottis repanda (rangiora)	u (1 plant)
Coprosma areolata	
Coprosma rhamnoides	
Coprosma robusta (karamu)	
Corynocarpus laevigatus (karaka)	
Geniostoma rupestre (hangehange)	u (1)
Hedycarya arborea (pigeonwood)	
Hoheria populnea var. (lacebark)	u (1 juvenile)
Knightia excelsa (rewarewa)	u (3 trees)
Laurelia novae-zelandiae (pukatea)	u (1 tree)
Lophomyrtus obcordata (rohutu)	u
Leptospermum scoparium (manuka)	u (about 5)

Lophomyrtus bullata X L. obcordata	u(2)
Macropiper excelsum (kawakawa)	(mostly seedlings)
Melicope simplex (parataniwha)	u (4)
Melicytus ramiflorus (mahoe)	
Myoporum laetum (ngaio)	u (3 trees)
Myrsine australis (mapou)	u(1)
Pennantia corymbosa (kaikomako)	
Pittosporum crassifolium (karo) ¹	u (1 seedling)
Pseudopanax crassifolius (lancewood)	(adults + juv.)
Rhabdothamnus solandri (taurepo, NZ gloxinia)	(1 patch of shrubs)

Dicot lianes

Metrosideros colensoi	
Metrosideros diffusa	
Metrosideros perforata	u (1 vine)
Muehlenbeckia complexa (small-leaved pohuehue)	
Parsonia capsularis (NZ jasmine)	
Parsonia heterophylla (NZ jasmine)	
Passiflora tetrandra (kohia, NZ passionfruit)	u
Rubus cissoides (bush lawyer)	u (1)
Rubus schmidelioides (bush lawyer)	

Monocot trees

Cordyline australis (cabbage tree)	+p
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Monocot liane

Ripogonum scandens (supplejack)	
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Grasses

Microlaena stipoides (meadow ricegrass)	
Oplismenus hirtellus ssp imbecillus	
Poa anceps ssp. anceps	

Sedges

Carex inversa	
* Carex divulsa	
Carex spinirostris	

Monocot herbs, other than sedges & grasses

Earina mucronata (a perching orchid)	(2 patches)
Juncus pallidus (a tall rush)	

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii (maidenhair fern)	
Asplenium colensoi	
Asplenium flaccidum (hanging spleenwort)	
Asplenium gracillimum	
Asplenium hookerianum	

¹ Not native to this district; spread by birds from planted hedges etc.

Blechnum chambersii	
Blechnum filiforme (climbing blechnum)	
Blechnum discolor (crown fern)	u (1)
Cyathea medullaris (mamaku)	u
	Hypolepis ambigua
Lastreopsis glabella	
Lastreopsis velutina (velvet fern)	u
Microsorium scandens	
Pellaea rotundifolia s.s. (button fern)	
Pneumatopteris pennigera	
Polystichum richardii	
Pteris tremula	u(1)
Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia	

Dicot herbs

Cardamine sp. (C. debilis agg. C. "Narrow Petal"
of Pritchard 1957) (bittercress)

Epilobium rotundifolium (willow-herb)

Euchiton gymnocephalus (a native cudweed)

Geranium microphyllum (NZ geranium)

Hydrocotyle elongata

Hydrocotyle heteromeria (waxweed)

Hydrocotyle moschata (hairy pennywort)

Oxalis exilis (creeping oxalis)

Ranunculus reflexus (bush buttercup)

Stellaria parviflora (NZ chickweed)