

ABS ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS to the Chatswood Reserve species list
(Norton, 1991)

Ferns

Lindsaea trichomanoides *Tmesipteris sigmatifolia* - confirmed

Dicotyledons

Alectryon excelsus *Rubus cissoides* (R. schmidelioides, mistake?)
Carmichaelia aligera *Solanum americanum*
Fuchsia excorticata *Vitex lucens*
Pseudopanax lessoni

Monocotyledons

Acianthus hericatus *Pterostylis alobula*
A. oblongus *P. graminea* s.s.
A. sinclairii *P. rubricaulis*
Bulbophyllum pygmaeum *P. trullifolia*
Cordyline australis x *C. pumilio* *Schoenus maschalinus*
C. pumilio - confirmed *Schoenus tendo*
Gahnia pauciflora *Uncinia banksii* - confirmed
G. setifolia *U. uncinata* (*U. clavata*, mistake?)
Juncus gregiflorus

Tangihua Forest, Northland - plant additions and an odd Adiantum

E.K. Cameron

Tangihua Range lies between Whangarei and Dargaville, the main rugged ridge runs for some 13 km north-west to south-east and reaches 627 m asl. The following notes were recorded during the Auckland University, Botany Department taxonomy field trip, based for the first time at the excellent Lions Lodge in the southern part of the forest. The presence of this new lodge and associated public access has markedly increased the number of visitors to the forest.

Bellingham (1985) compiled native vascular plant lists for the 17 former indigenous State Forests of Northland. This article notes additions to his Tangihua State Forest list of 249 taxa. The records are based on -

- 2½ hrs on the loop track by the Lodge, 26 Aug. 1991,
- 6 hrs up to the trig via the north-east tramping hut and returning the same way, 28 Aug. 1991,
- 2 earlier vouchered collections,

ADDITIONS TO TANGIHUA SPECIES LIST

L = loop track by Lodge, 60-210 m asl

H = near tramping hut, 140-300 m asl

T = upper ridge leading to trig, 400-627 m asl

AK = vouchered in Auckland Museum herbarium

AKU = vouchered in Auckland University Botany Department herbarium

Ferns

Adiantum cf. *cunninghamii* T, AK 200564 (*A. cunninghamii* recorded by Bellingham)

A. viridescens L & H (*A. fulvum* agg. recorded by Bellingham)

Blechnum minus L & H, AK 200559
Gleichenia dicarpa L
G. microphylla L
Pteris saxatilis H, Parris AKU 22987 (also collected in Waihou Str
catchment in 1985, Forester AK 174534)

Dicotyledons

Ackama rosifolia H
Brachylottis kirkii s.s. T
Coprosma macrocarpa T, AK 200562
C. rigida L
Dracophyllum traversii (syn. D. pyramidale) T, AK 200572
Gnaphalium audax T, AK 200566
Hebe ligustrifolia T, AK 200576
Syzygium maire Clements in 1988, AKU 21018

Monocotyledons

Carex lesssoniana H (C. geminata agg. recorded by Bellingham)
C. virgata H
Cyperus ustulatus H
Eleocharis acuta H
E. gracilis H
Phormium tenax L
Pterostylis alobula H
Rytidosperma gracile T (R. sp. recorded by Bellingham)
Schoenoplectus validus H
Thelymitra longifolia T
Typha orientalis H

Other Tangihua specimens collected

Coprosma propinqua s.s. AK 200558 G. pseudociliata AK 200569
Corybas acuminatus AK 200568 Griselinia littoralis AK 200571
Dracophyllum sinclairii AK 200563 Metrosideros albiflora AK 200574
Earina autumnalis AK 200567 M. carminea AK 200573
Entolasia marginata AK 200557 Olearia furfuracea AK 200565
Grammitis billardierei AK 200570

The presence of Olearia albida and the additions of two normally coastal species, Coprosma macrocarpa and Pteris saxatilis, is quite remarkable so far from the coast. O. albida and C. macrocarpa are also found on the Maungaru Ridge to the north-west and into the Houto Forest Blocks (P.J. Bellingham pers.comm., 1991)

The local occurrence of the Australian bordered panic grass (Entolasia marginata) in tea tree by the Loop Track is probably the start of this rather aggressive grass spreading along tracks and marginally into secondary forests. In Puketi Forest it is locally abundant along tracks and in Herekino Forest (P.J. Bellingham pers.comm., 1991) it is even worse along old logging tracks. To the south I have seen it invading rather open secondary forest, e.g. Parry Kauri Park (Warkworth) and Wainora Stream, Kauaeranga Valley (Coromandel).

The most interesting find was an Adiantum (AK 200564) growing on a south-facing cliff ledge close to the trig. The plant matches A. cunninghamii except the pinnae are covered in stiff dark hairs on the glaucous underside (the indusium flap is glabrous). The rachis, pinna, mid-ribs and lamina stalks are black, shiny and glabrous.

Forms with lamina hairs present or absent are frequent in two different Adiantum "species" (1 is a species pair): Brownsey (1987) recorded glabrous forms of A. diaphanum which is usually hairy on the

indusia and undersides of laminae segments; A. viridescens is virtually only a glabrous form (glabrous laminae) of the hairy A. fulvum. There is some taxonomic inconsistency here in treating A. diaphanum as a polymorphic species and recognising A. fulvum and A. viridescens at specific rank. I wonder how rare the hairy form of A. cunninghamii is?

I thank the Department of Conservation, Northland Conservancy for permission to collect voucher specimens and Peter Bellingham for his comments.

REFERENCES

- Bellingham, P.L. 1985. Indigenous vascular flora of Northland State Forest Park. Unpublished, NZ Forest Service, Auckland Conservancy.
Brownsey, P.J. 1987. Polymorphism in Adiantum diaphanum - help wanted. N.Z. Botanical Society Newsletter 10: 13-15.

Flora and vegetation of an islet off Ponui Island, Hauraki Gulf, Auckland

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The flora and vegetation of a small (0.6 ha) unnamed islet situated between Ponui and Rotoroa Islands in the Hauraki Gulf, Auckland was visited on separate trips by each of us. The islet lies 300 m off the north-east end of Ponui Island on the southern side of the Ruthe Passage (grid ref. NZMS 260 S11 072835) (Fig. 1). A large rocky reef extends out from its northern side. The long narrow islet is close to 200 m long by 20-50 m wide and reaches nearly 20 m asl at the western end. The islet is mainly a west-east ridge, lowest in the centre (5 m asl), with steep north and south facing slopes; there are few level areas. It is composed of Waipapa greywacke which is eroding rapidly along most of the northern slopes; the southern slopes are generally well clothed in low forest. The islet is within the Auckland Ecological Region and the Inner Gulf Islands Ecological District; it was visited for 1½ hours on 28 Oct. 1988 by GAT and 3 hours on 10 Nov. 1990 by EKC. It is Maori customary land.

VEGETATION

For convenience of description the islet can be divided into 5 zones (Fig. 1):

1. Bare - some three-quarters of the north-facing slope, from sea level to ridge top, is steep crumbling rock. The sparse vegetation is mainly grasses, occasional low patches of gorse (Ulex europaeus) or manuka (Leptospermum scoparium) and scattered seedlings of pohutukawa (Metrosideros excelsa). Scattered karo (Pittosporum crassifolium) and pohutukawa generally fringe the cliff-top. Two steep parts of the south-facing coast are similar.
2. Grassland-bracken - at the eastern end of islet the rock is not eroding and is covered in low vegetation of grasses, bracken (Pteridium esculentum), lichens (crusts and Cladina confusa, Parmotrema sp. and Ramalina sp.), mosses (mainly Thuidium sp.) and with the occasional karo