bush remnants a short distance from the main mistletoe site. However, a week after our trip Mrs. Gilbert found three new plants (aided by her binoculars) in this patch. We must have been too busy pulling out privet seedlings to notice! It is encouraging that the mistletoe has established in another remnant on the farm.

References

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Preliminary species list for remnant on the Gilbert's farm

compiled by Carol McSweeney and Bec Stanley

Fungi
**Favolaschia calocera*

Ferns
Asplenium flaccidum
Blechnum filiforme
Cyathea cunninghamii
Cyathea dealbata (one double headed plant)
Cyathea medullaris
Doodia media
Grammitis sp.
?Histiopteris incisa
Phymatosorus pustulatus
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia
Rumohra adiantiformis

Conifers
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides
Dacrydium cupressinum
Phyllocladus trichomanoides
Podocarpus hallii
Prumnopitys ferruginea
Prumnopitys taxifolia

Dicots
Acaena novae-zelandiae
Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmedia tarairi
Beilschmedia tawa
Carpodetus serratus
Clematis paniculata
Coprosma arborea
Coprosma grandifolia
Coprosma robusta
Coprosma spathulata
Dysoxylum spectabile
Galium propinquum
Hedycarya arborea
Ileostylus micranthus
**Ilex aquifolium*
Knightia excelsa
**Ligustrum* sp.
Melicytus ramiflorus
Metrosideros fulgens
Metrosideros perforata
Muehlenbeckia australis
Mysine australis
Myrsine salicina
Nestegis lanceolata
Parsonsia heterophylla
Passiflora tetrapanda
Pseudopanax crassifolius
?Rubus cissoides
**Rubus fruticosus* agg.
Vitex lucens

Monocots
**Allium triquetrum*
Astelia banksii
Astelia solandri
Carex virgata
Collospermum hastatum
Cordyline ?banksii
Earina mucronata
Rhopalostylis sapida

No kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*, Icacinaceae) on Gt Barrier Island

Rhys Gardn

As a forest plant that favours relatively cool sites, kaikomako occurs only sporadically in the northern part of the country. The Auckland Museum herbarium (AK) has a dozen or so collections from north of Auckland, scattered fro the Waitakere Ranges to Kaitaia. Two other collections, made in the 1960s from Great Barrier Island (AK 130582; 133460) were named as this plant by their collectors and were uncritically accepted as such by John Bartlett and myself (Bartlett & Gardner 1983).

In the course of a revision of *Pennantia* I recently examined these two specimens, both of which consist only of juvenile foliage. They are actually specimens of *Melicytus micranthus*. Both species have somewhat flexuose or zig-zag stems, finely pubescent new growth, and more or less obovate, lobed leaf blades. The hairs of kaikomako, or at least some of them, have hooked tips, however, and the lobes of its blades never have a distinct denticle — Icacinaceae is a family in which it seems that the leaves are always entire, never truly toothed. Particularly when dealing with dried material, these differences might all be useful in helping to distinguish adult kaikomako from *Melicytus micranthus* x *ramiflorus*.

Kaikomako, therefore, has to be deleted from the Great Barrier flora. (The *Melicytus* is already known from other specimens). It can be noted that kaikomako is absent from Little Barrier too, and seems to be uncommon on the Coromandel Peninsula, being known in AK only from an old specimen from Kennedy Bay and a recent one from Wilson Bay (36°52' S).

It is not often that one catches Mr Cheeseman out, but a specimen of his from Nelson (AK 5120), collected in 1878 and named as kaikomako, provides an instance. Like the Great Barrier specimens, it too consists entirely of juvenile foliage, but the shoots are straight to curved, the older bark is smooth and reddish, and the lobes of the leaf blades are terminated by denticles. The stellate hairs on the blades confirm a redetermination as *Hoheria angustifolia*. It seems from the other material of the latter in AK that this might have been the first time Cheeseman encountered, or at least collected, this deceptive species.

Reference
Bartlett, J. K. & Gardner, R. O. 1983: Flora of Great Barrier Island. Auckland Botanical Society Bulletin no. 14.

Visit to the RNZ. Naval Armament Depot, Whangaparaoa. 9 October 1998

Steve Benham, Maureen Young, Graeme Hambly & Barbara White

One of the few expected duties of being an ABS committee member is to lead one of the monthly field trips. At the annual Committee meeting on the 7th April I suggested that we should have an August visit to the military land on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula as this was a restricted entry area where few botanists have ever visited. After numerous phone calls to Peter Leishman of the Whangaparaoa Army Base, Graeme Hambly and myself were granted permission for a reconnoitre in July.

The Army land proved to be less species diverse and in a younger stage of growth than we expected whereas the land nearer the tip of the Peninsular that was surrounded with a high security fence appeared to be more botanically exciting with some large kauri, pohutukawa and puriri. We did in fact come across clay banks covered in fruiting *Gaultheria antipoda*. Having botanised the Army land we came to the conclusion that we should try and organise the field trip to include this high security area which is administered by the RNZ Navy. Unfortunately, but not unexpected my request to bring a group of ABS members on a field visit was refused for security reasons.
However, permission was granted to bring 3-4 persons onto this naval armament storage depot land to botanise and compile a species list.

Finally on the afternoon of the 9th October four of us were met and escorted through the security gates. There was an air of excitement especially when Maureen started telling us about how Lucy Cranwell had reported back in the 1940's of having seen *Pterostylis nutans* near a gun emplacement on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula.

There were many highlights that afternoon. Upon entering we were delighted to see clay banks covered in flowering *Pimelea longifolia* and the numerous other taxa usually associated with gumlands. Mats of *Pyrrosia eleagnifolia* caught our attention with the undivided lamina measuring 20 - 25cm in length.
On the bush perimeter kowhai (*Sophora ? microphylla*) were in full flower. They appeared quite distinct with smaller flowers, zigzag immature growth and larger leaflets than typical *Sophora microphylla*.
Once down in the sheltered valley we were amazed at the good condition of the bush with little or no evidence of alien fauna or flora. We walked through a grove of ti kouka (*Cordyline australis*) with a dense undercover of *Pteris tremula* and then onto a drier area with large pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*) and puriri (*Vitex lucens*). The discovery of a dozen or more flowering *Pterostylis banksii* 30-40 cm high brought us literally to our knees !

The importance of this area and the army land cannot be under estimated as it has the last remaining natural stand of kauri on the peninsular and also has the nearest naturally occurring vegetation to Tiritiri Matangi and adjoins the Shakespear Regional Park.

Unfortunately, Lucy's *Pterostylis nutans* eluded us on this visit but we are planning to return!

The RNZ Navy are to be congratulated on caring for this biologically important area and every effort must be made to see that its protection is guaranteed.