recalcitrant seeds that cannot be maintained in a seed store and to produce material for re-introduction, reinforcement, habitat restoration and management.
A conservation-specific seed storage facility will be a separate and probably shared facility. We are looking to create partnerships with Department of Conservation and Territorial Local Authorities for this project. This will be our 'back room store' for plant conservation whilst the TNPG is the 'shop window'.

This collection is proving to be a popular destination with our visitors and is creating a greater awareness that our native plants are at risk whilst helping visitors understand one of our fundamental roles, namely biodiversity conservation.

Acknowledgement: The authors are grateful for the support given to this project and plant conservation at the Gardens by the Auckland Regional Council.

Steve Benham
Botanical Records/Conservation Officer
Brent Torrens
Curator of New Zealand Native Plants
Auckland Regional Botanic Gardens
102 Hill Road, Manurewa
Auckland, 1702, New Zealand.
Tel: +64 (0) 9 267 1457
Fax: +64 (0) 9 266 3698
Email: steve.benham@arc.govt.nz
Email: brent.torrens@arc.govt.nz
21 January 2002

Field Trip Report: Uhuru Farm, Pukapuka Peninsula, Mahurangi
20 April 2002

Maureen Young

The meeting point for this field trip was a pull-off area on SH 1 opposite the turn off to the Mahurangi West Road. While waiting, we were able to check on the mistletoe plants (*Ileostylus micranthus*) which grow there, and which, sadly, are in the path of a planned new road deviation. A few yellow fruits still remained on some plants.

From this point we drove in convoy to the end of the Pukapuka Road, to Uhuru Farm, owned by Bob and Sue Stevenson. In less than four years of ownership the Stevensons have fenced the entire coastline of the property, and all the areas of bush and wetlands. Many scattered pines and macrocarpa trees have been felled or ring barked, and all animal pests are being targeted. It is pleasing to see that enclosed grassy areas are being left to regenerate naturally rather than being planted. Kanuka, *Coprosma macrocarpa* and taraire are the pioneer species.

First our party explored one of the coastal strips, by climbing one of the stiles which are placed at regular intervals along the fence line. Several plants of the velvet fern *Lastreopsis velutina*, were admired, and then a slender tree of the hybrid *Pseudopanax crassifolius* x *P. lessonii*, which had fallen and had vertical shoots all along the stem. The shoots ranged from the juvenile form near the base through to fruiting adult ones near the apex. Pohutukawa and puriri trees leaned out over the rocks, bearing the most luscious (we tasted them) red fruit on the perching *collospermum* that any of us had seen – a testament to the efficacy of the possum kill. *Drymoanthus adversus*, with fruit, was also growing on one of these trees. Anne Grace searched the sandstone rocks and found trace fossils, left there millions of years ago by some small creature.

A short drive on a farm road led us to the area that was to be our main focus for the day. Some explored the swamp, making a surprise discovery of the fern *Hypolepis distans*, while others preferred to explore their lunch boxes. After lunch we back-tracked a few metres to inspect the one tree of hard beech which has been seen on the property, then advanced along the track. Sandra became so immersed in the botany, that it was a couple of hours later when she discovered that she had forgotten to pick up her pack in passing.

As the bush is in the early stages of recovery, the under-storey consists mainly of species that are unpalatable to animals. Among them were prickly mingimingi (*Leptecophylla juniperina*) which was fruiting heavily, with a couple of pink fruited bushes among the white, *Coprosma spathulata*, and *C. rhamnoides*. *Mida salicifolia* was common. Near the kauri trees the dainty orchid *Pterostylis brumalis* was in early flower, and the comb fern *Schizaea fistulosa* was quite plentiful. A slender tree growing on the edge of a wet area had opinion divided between swamp maire or mida. Neither the tell-tale pneumatophores nor other trees of swamp maire could be found, but in the end that is what we decided it must be.

At a river flat there were many seedlings of kowhai getting away to a good start, and now we are starting to recognise that *Sophora chathamica* is the coastal species in this locality. Near here was a large matai, and also a couple of small saplings in the "tangled wire" stage. On coming to the end of the track a rest and a quick snack was the order of the day, and then we set off again to walk through another small patch of riverside bush. The leader had been lax with her counting of participants, and it wasn't until we were returning to the cars that Bob drove past and sang out that he had seen half a dozen people wandering aimlessly, and had directed them to where he thought we had gone. A small group went with Bob to where Mike Wilcox had previously found *Baumea arthrophylla* growing. This is an unusual plant in the Auckland region, though it was hard for Bob to see what the fuss was about. He joked that he had nearly mown it. Eventually the stragglers were all mustered and returned to the cars in which they had arrived.

We are obliged to the Stevensons for so cheerfully allowing us access to their land, and also for their conservation efforts. A repeat of this field trip in a few years time would doubtless show the effects of their work.

Ferns
Adiantum cunninghamii
Adiantum hispidulum
Asplenium flaccidum
Asplenium gracillimum (var. *laxum*)
Asplenium oblongifolium
Asplenium polyodon
Blechnum chambersii
Blechnum filiforme
Blechnum fraseri
Blechnum membranaceum
Blechnum novae-zelandiae
Cyathea dealbata
Cyathea medullaris
Deparia petersenii subsp. *congrua*
Dicksonia squarrosa
Doodia australis
Huperzia varia
Hymenophyllum dilatatum
Hymenophyllum flabellatum
Hymenophyllum multifidum
Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum
Hypolepis distans
Lastreopsis glabella
Lastreopsis hispida
Lastreopsis microsora
Lastreopsis velutina
Lindsaea trichomanoides
Lycopodium deuterodensum
Lygodium articulatum
Microsorum pustulatum
Microsorum scandens
Paesia scaberula
Pellaea rotundifolia
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum richardii
Pteris macilenta
Pteris tremula
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia
Schizaea fistulosa
Tmesipteris elongata
Tmesipteris lanceolata
Trichomanes reniforme

Gymnosperms
Agathis australis
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides
Dacrydium cupressinum
Phyllocladus trichomanoides
Podocarpus totara
Prumnopitys ferruginea
Prumnopitys taxifolia

Dicotyledons
Alectryon excelsus
Alseuosmia macrophylla
Apium prostratum
Avicennia marina var. *australasica*
Beilschmiedia tarairi
Beilschmiedia tawa/tawaroa
Brachyglottis repanda
Callitriche muelleri
Calystegia sepium
Carmichaelia australis
Carpodetus serratus
Centella uniflora
Clematis cunninghamii
Clematis paniculata
Coprosma arborea
Coprosma areolata
Coprosma grandiflora
Coprosma lucida
Coprosma macrocarpa
Coprosma rhamnoides
Coprosma spathulata
Corynocarpus laevigatus
Dichondra repens
Dysoxylum spectabile
Eleocarpus dentatus
Galium propinquum
Geniostoma rupestre var. *ligustrifolium*
Gonocarpus incanus
Haloragis erecta
Hedycarya arborea
Hoheria populnea
Knightia excelsa
Kunzea ericoides
Lagenifera pumila
Leptecophylla juniperina (=*Cyathodes*)
Leptospermum scoparium
Leucopogon fasciculatus
Litsea calicaris
Lobelia anceps
Macropiper excelsa
Melicytus ramiflorus
Metrosideros excelsa
Metrosideros fulgens
Metrosideros perforata
Mida salicifolia
Myrsine australis
Nertera depressa
Nertera dichondrifolia
Nestegis lanceolata
Nothofagus truncata
Olearia furfuracea
Olearia rani
Parsonsia heterophylla
Peperomia urvilleana
Pittosporum tenuifolium
Plagianthus divaricatus
Pseudopanax crassifolius
Pseudopanax lessonii
Pseudopanax lessonii x crassifolius
Ranunculus reflexus
Rubus australis
Rubus cissoides
Samolus repens
Selliera radicans
Sophora chathamica
Syzygium maire
Vitex lucens
Wahlenbergia violacea

Monocotyledons
Acianthus sinclairii
Apodasmia similis
Astelia banksii
Astelia solandri
Astelia trinervia
Baumea arthrophylla (=*B. huttonii*)
Baumea juncea
Baumea rubiginosa
Baumea tenax
Bolboschoenus medianus
Bulbophyllum pygmaeum
Caladenia chlorostyla
Carex dissita
Carex flagellifera
Carex geminata
Carex inversa
Carex lambertiana
Carex ochrosaccus
Carex secta
Carex virgata
Collospermum hastatum
Cordyline australis
Cyperus ustulatus
Deyeuxia quadriseta
Dianella nigra
Drymoanthus adversus
Earina mucronata
Eleocharis acuta
Freycinetia banksii
Gahnia lacera
Gahnia pauciflora
Gahnia setifolia
Gahnia xanthocarpa
Isolepis cernua
Isolepis nodosa
Isolepis reticularis
Juncus krausii var. *australiensis*
Juncus pauciflorus
Juncus sarophorus
Lepidosperma australe
Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus hirtellus subsp. *imbecillis*
Phormium tenax
Poa anceps
Pterostylis brumalis
Rhopalostylis sapida
Ripogonum scandens
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani
Schoenus maschalinus
Schoenus tendo
Thelymitra sp.
Triglochin striata
Typha orientalis
Uncinia uncinata
Winika cunninghamii

Bryophytes compiled by Peter White

Dicranoloma billardierei.
Hypnodendron menziesii or H. kerrii, umbrella moss. Quite common in kauri-kanuka forest AK 256702.
Hypnodendron colensoi. An umbrella moss with several tiers. In kauri-kanuka forest. AK 256704.
Leptostomum macrocarpum. pin cushion moss.
Ptychomnion aciculare. milk moss. Common in kauri forest.
Trichocolea mollissima

Lichens compiled by Peter White

Chrysothrix candelans

Slime Moulds compiled by Clive Shirley

Hemitrichia calyculata

Fungi compiled by Peter White and Clive Shirley

Amanita nehuta. Several seen.
Amanita nothofagi. Common in kauri-kanuka forest.
Calocera cornea. Small yellow fingers emerging from a macracarpa in the paddock.
Entoloma sp. (unidentified).
Favolaschia calocera, orange pore fungus, an introduced sp. Common on dead wood.
Ganoderma aff. *applanatum.* Scattered throughout.
Hypholoma fasciculare, sulphur tuft. A colony on a fallen tree in a gully.
Macrolepiota clelandii. One seen.
Pleurotis sp. (unidentified). Cap 150 mm wide and very light grey, gills and stem white.
Pluteus velutinornatus. On the wide track.
Rosellinia sp. Tiny black sphere topped by a nipple-like bump. On a log on the coastal edge and in the bush above. On the same log were some black saucer-shaped fungi - I've sent a sample to Landcare for ID.
Russula acrolamellata, a yellow-brown russula. Common under kanuka.
Russula macrocystidiata, purple russula. Several seen.
Scleroderma sp. earthball, stone fungus. One found on just inside the fenceline.