NATIVE PLANTS ALONG THE SHORELINE OF MANSON'S POINT PENINSULA, NEAR GOVERNOR'S BAY, LYTTELTON HARBOUR, 1937

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When I was a student at Christchurch Teacher's Training College, in 1937, I undertook a survey of the native plants along 2.4 km of the west side of Manson's Point, the long headland between Governor's Bay and Head-of-the-Bay, at the head of Lyttelton Harbour. The habitats consist of: small muddy inlets and beaches and pockets of gently-sloping ground above high water mark; steep cliffs of volcanic bedrock rising from the mud-flats which are covered by sea-water at high tide; loess-covered steep hillsides with some clay banks; a few moist, sheltered gullies. The slopes are generally exposed to the sun and the nor'-west wind, so they are very dry in summer and mostly well-drained, through the steepness.

PLANT LIST (names converted to modern usage)

Acaena cf. *novae-zelandiae*	bidi bidi	plentiful in patches
Apium filiforme	slender celery	common in muddy inlets and on beaches
Carmichaelia cf. *robusta*	native broom	commonest native shrub
Convolvulus verecundus (probably)	grass convolvulus	common, stems twining through grass
Coprosma robusta	karamu	occasional plants throughout
Cordyline australis	cabbage tree	fairly common
Cortaderia richardii	toetoe	1 plant in moist soil
Discaria toumatou	matagouri	a few patches
Disphyma australe	ice plant	fairly common on steep banks
Einadia triandra	red-berried chenopod	fairly common on steep banks
Gingidia montana	aniseed	2 plants seen, inaccessible sites
Gnaphalium sp.	cudweed	uncommon

Griselinia littoralis	broadleaf	1 small seedling on an island; nearest trees nearly 2 km distant
Haloragis erecta	saw-leaf	common in rock recesses
Juncus sp.	rushes	common
Kunzea ericoides	kanuka	common near south-west end of headland; abundant juveniles
cf. *Lagenifera* sp. (recorded as *Brachycome sinclairii*)	small daisy	fairly common, dry clay banks near sea
Leptospermum scoparium	manuka	common throughout; abundant juveniles
Libertia ixioides	NZ iris	a few plants
Linum monogynum	NZ linen flax	fairly common
Melicytus ramiflorus	mahoe	2 trees seen
Muehlenbeckia australis	big pohuehue	a few individuals, in manuka
M. complexa	small pohuehue	common
Olearia paniculata	golden akeake	common in places; abundant juveniles
Oxalis cf. *exilis*	NZ oxalis	common in grassland
Phormium tenax	harakeke	a few clumps in moist sites
Plagianthus divaricatus	salt marsh ribbonwood	common in muddy inlets and on beaches
Poa cita	silver tussock	abundant throughout
Pseudopanax arboreus	five-finger	2 isolated trees in manuka, seedling on an island; nearest trees about 1 km distant
Ranunculus sp.	NZ buttercup	in manuka scrub
Rytidosperma sp.	"danthonia grass"	very common, dry, bare areas (might be introduced from Australia, Ed.)

Salicornia australis	glasswort	common in muddy inlets and on beaches
Selliera radicans	spatula	common in muddy inlets and on beaches
Stellaria cf. *parviflora*	NZ starwort	uncommon, on dry banks
Wahlenbergia gracilis	harebell	very common

It would be very interesting to know whether all of these species still survive in the locality. Perhaps some young, fit botanist could have a check.

Fig. 1. *Orchis morio*, the green-winged orchid.