Dracophyllum latifolium trees had rather slender leaves – maybe it is the entity that was previously named *D. matthewsii*.

My little decumbent plant of *P. pimeleoides* subsp. *majus* (formerly *P. michiei*) growing in my colourful pot made by Ross Michie, also flowered well from mid June to early August, with 8 of its 10 branchlets bearing up to 8 flowers per umbel. These flowers were somewhat larger and more yellow in colour than those of my *P. pimeleoides* subsp. *pimeleioides* plant.

Acknowledgements

My thanks to Lisa Clapperton (Waitoki Plants) for my plant of *Pittosporum pimeleoides*; to Anne Fraser, Helen Cogle and Barbara Parris for their company in the field; and Pam Dale and Ruud Kleinpaste for the identification of some of the moths.

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Cheeseman, T.F. 1925: Manual of the New Zealand Flora. NZ Government Printer.
Godley, E.J. 1968: The fruit of *Pittosporum pimeleoides*. *New Zealand Journal of Botany 6*: 118-119.
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Identifying *Schoenus brevifolius*, *S. tendo* and *Lepidosperma filiforme*

Rhys Gardner

The distinctions I promoted between the first two of these leafless sedges (Gardner 2008) were tested this last June by Mark Smale and myself during our checking of plots laid out in the Far North's "gumland scrub" (sometimes called heath or heathland, e.g. Enright 1989). In addition, both the areas visited, one on the Karikari Penisula and the other near the start of the Spirits Bay Road, contained a great deal of the similar-looking *Lepidosperma filiforme*.

Fig. 1. *Lepidosperma filiforme.* Habit. Near Te Paki; *Gleichenia dicarpa* and M. Smale for scale. Photo: R.O. Gardner, June 2009.

In fact, there was no *S. tendo* in our plots, which consisted mainly of waist-high manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) among rather sparse, short, erect-stemmed growths of *Schoenus brevifolius* and taller, yellower, fan-shaped tussocks of *L. filiforme* (Fig. 1). This habit difference, and the profuse flowering of the latter compared to the general sterility of the former, made distinguishing between them straighforward in the field.

In the herbarium, the culms of *L. filiforme* are seen to be slightly less robust than those of *S. brevifolius* (but larger than those of *S. tendo*), and have a septate pith; the pith is septate in *S. tendo* too but is continuous in *L. filiforme* (Fig. 2).

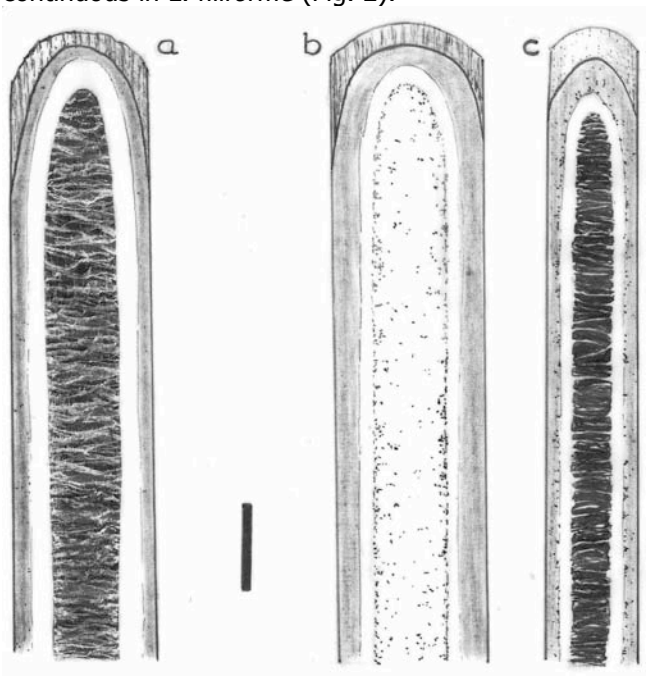

Fig. 2. Sectioned mid-culms.
A. *L. filiforme*. Central part of pith septate (sometimes appearing coarsely so if razor is not sufficiently sharp !). AK 273144.
B. *Schoenus brevifolius*. Central part of pith continuous but copiously speckled with areas of red-brown cells. AK 35703.
C. *S. tendo*. Central part of pith septate ("holes" rather large compared to those of *L. filiforme*). AK 265242. Scale = 1 mm.

I do not understand why *S. tendo* should be absent

from those areas,and also, why *L. filiforme* should be absent from gumland only a short way south, e.g. at Ahipara and at Maitaitai near Dargaville. Growth trials with different soils might be helpful, but unfortunately for those who want their answers in a hurry these plants are very reluctant transplantees. As a more than usually open-ended speculation it can be noted that *S. tendo* is endemic and is essentially a plant of dry open places in kauri forest, whereas *S. brevifolius* and *L. filiforme* occur in Australia also, where they tend to grow in swamps or the wetter types of heathland.

Reference
Enright, N.J. 1989: Heathland vegetation of the Spirits Bay Area, far northern New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Ecology 12*: 63-75.

Four neglected Waitemata and Manukau Harbour frontages

Rhys Gardner

Introduction

These notes on some fairly undistinguished pieces of vegetation are intended to justify rather more than just a few hours' unfocussed seaside rambling (though always with the hope that *Trilepidea adamsii* lay round the next headland). Of course, if authentic local material of a native plant is needed for any particular purpose, one cannot be too fussy about its associates. The "neglected" is not completely true either, since parts of these places have tracks and restoration-plantings.

The frontages' locations are shown in Fig. 1. Grid references given below in the headings refer to the NZMS 260 R11 "Auckland" sheet and mark approximately their central points

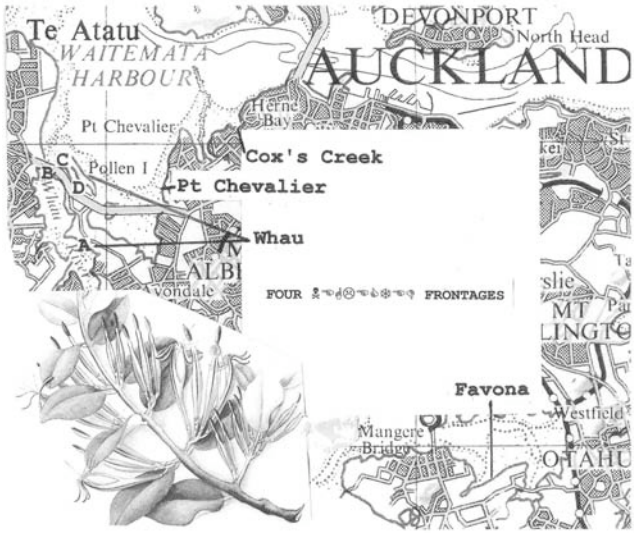

Fig. 1. Location of the four frontages.

Notes

1. Whau River-Rosebank Road peninsula. Four "subfrontages", A-D.

A (grid ref. 593786). This band of coastal native scrub is broken by weedy younger growths and restoration plantings. Much of it is part of the Kurt Bremer Walkway.

Its northern end is the point of land on which the West End Rowing Club is situated, at the end of Saunders Place. This is "Waitemata Sandstone" terrain, and the cliff edges here carry numerous large old pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*), and a few less impressive kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) and kowhai (*Sophora chathamica*).

Fig. 2. Large mahoe tree, Whau River (frontage 1A). Photo: R.0. Gardner, 10 April 2009.

The change to a younger geology immediately southwards is striking: the pohutukawa (with *Rytidosperma unarede* their the only noteworthy associated sp.) give way to slumped scrubby ground whose sticky white clay supports patches of low scrub, of mapou (*Myrsine australis*), mamaku (*Cyathea medullaris*), *Coprosma lucida*, *Leucopogon fasciculatus, and Phormium tenax,* among considerable areas of either *Gahnia lacera* or *Gleichenia dicarpa*. The water's edge is fringed by *Apodasmia similis*.