

THE VEGETATION AND FLORA OF MT MASON  
 Additions and Corrections to the Checklist

B.P.J. Molloy

During the visit by Society members to Mt Mason on Saturday 11 April 1981 the following species were recorded in addition to those listed in No 10 p 43 of this journal.

Ferns:

*Phymatosorus diversifolium* - rare on Mt Mason.

Trees and shrubs:

*Coprosma atropurpurea* - occasional on main ridge.

*C. petriei* - occasional on main ridge.

*C. aff. parviflora* - occasional on main ridge.

*Gaultheria crassa* - snowberry - occ. summit Mt Mason.

*G. antipoda* x *G. depressa* - rare on Mt Mason.

*Rosa rubiginosa* - sweet brier - occ. on main ridge.

Climbing plants:

*Rubus cissoides* - lawyer - occasional in manuka scrub.

*Calystegia turguriorum* - convolvulus - occ. main ridge.

Grasses and grass-like plants:

*Aira caryophylla* - hair grass - common throughout.

*Bromus mollis* - soft brome - occasional on track.

*Chionochoa flavescens* x *C. macra* - rare on Mt Mason.

*Deyeuxia avenoides* - oat grass - common on main ridge.

*Echinopogon ovatus* - hedgehog grass - occ. main ridge.

*Festuca rubra* - chewings fescue - common throughout.

*Hordeum murinum* - barley grass - occasional on track.

*Juncus articulatus* - rush - occasional throughout.

*J. gregiflorus* - rush - occasional throughout.

*Lachnagrostis filiformis* - wind grass - rare, Mt Mason.

*Phormium tenax* - flax - common on main ridge.

*Prasophyllum colensoi* - orchid - occasional throughout.

*Schoenus pauciflorus* - occasional throughout.

*Vulpia bromoides* - common on track.

Other herbs:

*Acaena anserinifolia* - bidibidi - common throughout.

*A. novae-zelandiae* - bidibidi - occasional on ridge.

*A. ovina* - sheep's burr - occasional on ridge.

*Aciphylla subflabellata* - spaniard - occ. throughout.

*Arenaria serpyllifolia* - sand wort - common throughout.

*Celmisia gracilentata* - daisy - common throughout.

*Centaureum erythraea* - centaury - occasional throughout.

*Cirsium arvense* - Californian thistle - common throughout.

*C. vulgare* - spear thistle - common throughout

*Dianthus armeria* - Deptford pink - occasional on ridge.

*Dichondra repens* - common on ridge.

*Epilobium alsinoides* - willow herb - common on ridge.

*E. pubens* - willow herb- occasional on ridge.

*Galium perpusillum* - bedstraw - common throughout.

*Geranium microphyllum* - cranesbill - occ. on ridge.

*Gnaphalium audax* - cudweed - occasional throughout.

*G. luteo-album* - cudweed - rare on ridge.

*Hieracium pilosella* - mouse-ear hawkweed - common throughout.

*Hydrocotyle moschata* - pennywort - occasional on ridge.

*H. novae-zelandiae* - pennywort - common throughout.

*Leontodon taraxacoides* - hawkbit - occasional in scrub.

*Marrubium vulgare* - horehound - rare on ridge.

*Oreomyrrhis ramosa* - occasional on ridge.

*Plantago major* - plantain - rare at low levels.

*Prunella vulgaris* - selfheal - common at low levels.

*Raoulia glabra* - occ. on Mt Mason.

*R. monroi* - raoulia - rare on Mt Mason.

*Ranunculus hirtus* - buttercup - rare at low levels.

*Senecio lagopus* - groundsel - common throughout.

*Trifolium arvense* - haresfoot trefoil - common, low levels.

*T. dubium* - suckling clover - common throughout.

T. pratense - red clover - occasional on ridge.  
 T. repens - white clover - common throughout.  
 Verbascum thapsus - mullein - occasional on ridge.  
 Wahlenbergia gracilis - harebell - rare on ridge.

Correction:

Among the shrubs listed in No. 10 of this Journal Olearia nummulariifolia should read O. nummulariifolia var. cymbifolia if Allan's Flora is followed or O. cymbifolia if Cheesman's treatment is preferred.

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#### CAULIFLORY IN ELAEOCARPUS HOOKERIANUS

by M.J.A. Simpson

The inflorescence of Elaeocarpus is described by Cheesman (1925) as "in axillary racemes", and generally in both pokaka (E. hookerianus) and hinau (E. dentatus) flowering racemes do arise from leaf axils on leafy shoots. However, when collecting flowering specimens of pokaka near Little River early last December I noticed that most flowers within reach were on racemes rising from bare branches and some even from the upper trunk giving the appearance of cauliflory.

The highly specialised conditions of cauliflory, where flowers are borne on the bare trunk or along branches well away from the leaves, is widespread in trees of tropical rain forests. In some form or other it exists in genera belonging to many or most of the larger tropical families. Trees with this kind of flowering are relatively rare in temperate regions, although one with which gardeners are familiar is the Judas tree (Cercis siliquastrum). In the New Zealand flora the most notable example is the kohekohe (Dysoxylum spectabile) of northern forests, but other known examples in New Zealand genera with tropical affinities are