

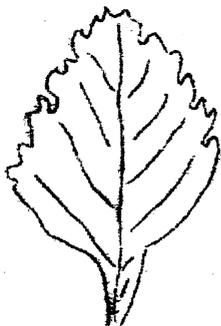
NOTE ON NOTHOFAGUS TRUNCATA

The beech found growing at Birkdale is Nothofagus truncata, but as this species is not described in Cheeseman, a word of explanation might be helpful.

Cheeseman (1925 edition) lists six species of Nothofagus though he publishes a brief note by Dr. Cockayne (p.373) on his investigations which were then in progress. Subsequently, Cockayne and Arkinson published their important paper, "On the New Zealand Wild Hybrids of Nothofagus." (Genitica VIII 1926).

As a result of prolonged field study, the authors conclude that New Zealand has only five species of beech, the other apparent species being hybrid forms. N. Menziesii apparently does not hybridize but the other 4 species (N. fusca, N. truncata, N. solandri and N. cliffortioides) apparently do not.

N. truncata and N. fusca, which are both possibly compound species, are readily distinguishable by their leaves. Those of N. fusca have large sharp teeth and those of N. truncata have smaller rather blunt teeth.



N. fusca



N. truncata

Aster, Cockayne & Arkinson.

It will be seen that 1 species (N. truncata) is added to Cheeseman's list. On the other hand N. Blairii is shown to be simply a name applied to a very small group of N. cliffortioides x N. fusca hybrids, and N. apiculata is simply a name given to a

small portion of the group N. solandri x N. truncata.

Cockayne and Atkinson figure about 126 different types of Nothofagus leaf, most of these being from hybrids.

Truly a varied genus!

N. truncata flowers from Oct. - December.

In the vicinity of Auckland, it has been reported from Birkdale, Chelsea Reserve, Hunua and Titirangi.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

Congratulations to Miss Pat Thomas on her marriage to Mr. Neville Henderson, lecturer in Zoology at the Auckland University College. Members will rejoice that on her wedding day, Miss Thomas received news that she had gained her M. Sc. with First Class Honours in Zoology.

Congratulations to Miss Ruth De Berg, Demonstrator in Botany at the Auckland University College, who has gained her M.Sc. with First Class Honours in Botany.

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CORRECTION

In the last number of the News Letter it was stated that the paper "Ovule anatomy and development in Phyllocladus alpinus and P. glaucus" was by Dr. J. Holloway. Actually it was by his son J.T. Holloway.

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BOTANICAL REVISIONS IV

Maire or N.Z. Sandalwood (Fusanus cunninghamii) may be known to members, as it is common in Kauri forests and light bush about