

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A U C K L A N D B O T A N I C A L S O C I E T Y

Vol. 19, No. 1

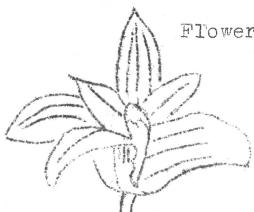
March, 1962

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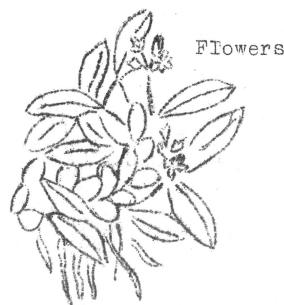
Holidays are now over. We welcome members back, trust they had a happy time and are glad to receive new observations and records.

Bulbophyllum tuberculatum



Flower X8

Lip orange-coloured.



Flowers

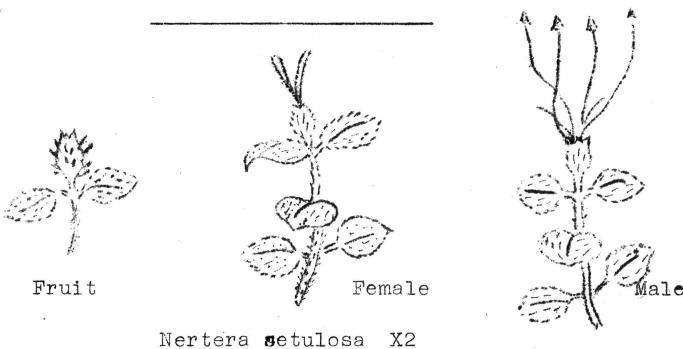
(After Cheeseman)

Bulbophyllum tuberculatum Col. Although B. pygmaeum Lindl. is common about Auckland, tuberculatum has not previously been reported. The fact that it was found by its discoverers, Messrs. Kitchen and Warren, growing on a fallen branch rather underlines Cheeseman's remark, "In all probability it is not uncommon in forest districts in the North Island and the northern portions of the South Island; but as it is principally found on the upper branches of tall forest trees it is not at all easy to detect..."

It was discovered on the Waitakeres in the vicinity of Pukematekeo. Congratulations to its discoverers.

Ipomoea palmata Forsk. Mr. Warren was intrigued to find this beautiful native member of the convolvulus family growing on an island in Port Fitzroy Harbour, Great Barrier Island. Cheeseman gives as its southern record "seacliffs of Tiri Tiri Island" from whence it was recorded by Hansen. Allan, however, presumably was not satisfied about this record as he gives the distribution as extending to "about lat. 35° - 30° ". Mr. Warren's record then is most interesting. It would be very useful if the opportunity arose for some member to re-investigate the sea cliffs at Tiri Tiri and any other available island in the Gulf. I. palmata is found to be not uncommon on the Kermedecs and is an abundant tropical plant in both hemispheres.

Two species of Nertera are well-known to many of our Auckland members, N. dichondraefolia and N. cunninghamii. The former is the commoner and its leaf blade is always more or less hairy. The bright succulent drupes of both species always attract attention. The species Mrs. Hynes discusses is unusual in the genus in that its fruit, when mature, is not succulent but hard and dry. We thank Mrs. Hynes for her interesting little note and Katie Wood for her attractive drawings. There seems no particular reason why this odd little plant should not be found about Auckland so we hope members will keep their eyes open.



Passing hurriedly through some pine plantations at Waipoua my attention was drawn to a plant carpeting the forest floor. It was the sole occupant, for no other plant shared its habitat. The stems were creeping