

Hebe stricta	Tetrapathaea tetrandra
Hedycarya arborea	Vitex lucens
Hoheria populnea	Weirmannia silvicola
Knightia excelsa	<u>MONOCOTYLEDONS</u>
Leptospermum ericoides	
" scoparium	Acianthus fornicatus var. sinclairii
Lophomyrtus bullata	Astelia banksii
Macropiper excelsum	Chiloglottis cornuta
Melicope simplex	Collospermum hastatum
" ternata (flowering)	Cordyline banksii
Melicytus ramiflorus	Dianella nigra
Metrosideros excelsa	Earina mucronata
" fulgens	Freycinetia banksii
" perforata	Gahnia sp.
" robusta	Microlaena sp.
Myrsine australis	Pterostylis banksii
Nestegis lanceolata	" graminea
Olearia furfuracea	Rhopalostylis sapida
" rani (flowering)	Ripogonum scandens
Paratrophis microphylla	Uncinia sp.
Pittosporum cornifolium	
" crassifolium (flowering)	
Pseudopanax crassifolius	
Rubus cissoides	
Schefflera digitata	
Sophora microphylla	
" " var. fulvida	

After we emerged from the bush Mrs Wood kindly invited us to her home nearby and we spent a pleasant half hour looking at the many native plants and having a timely cup of tea provided by our hostess and leader. Especially notable among the plants were the Hebe bishopiana, the Sophora microphylla var. fulvida and the Pratia physaloides from North Auckland. The west coast kowhai (var. fulvida) seemed to be of a more intense yellow than the larger leaved specimen.

CUTTY GRASS TRACK - 20th November 1976

On the last trip of the year we scored again with a lovely fine day and as it was a very easy walk the good turnout of members had an enjoyable outing. We walked to the Anawhata road corner where we lunched before returning to the bus at the Scenic Drive. As we then had a little time to spare we went on to the Information Centre for a browse around.

The bush in the late spring was kind to us and although the notable and glorious display of heketara was fading the Ixerba and Quintinia were starting to flower, as were other less spectacular plants, altogether providing a feeling of fresh life and a new season. The track is fairly flat but the altitude is of the order of 1000' so that the vegetation reflected this. Among the trees commonly noted were Quintinia serrata, regarded as montane in the North Island, and Ixerba brexioides, a frequent companion of Quintinia in such situations. Cordyline banksii

Hall's totara, Elechnum minus all prefer heights and were present in quantity, while tanekaha a lowland type was absent. One only pukatea, usually a lowland species, occurred rather surprisingly while Nestegis montana (stated to be misnamed montana in Poole and Adams) was present in quantity thus showing a liking for moderate heights at any rate.

The main plants noted flowering were Ixerba, Quintinia Thelymitra longifolia, Pterostylis banksii, hinau, Coprosma lucida, heketara, akepiro, manuka, Earina mucronata and Astelia solandri. The delicate filaments of Clematis seed and the red colour of the Elechnum capense leaves and the nikau berries all added variation to the green forest in the sunlight.

Lancewoods in the Waitakeres are noted for their hybridism and variation and Mr Mead in his list notes the resemblance of some to P. ferox. We noticed that most lancewoods on the track had very large teeth projecting alternately about 7 mm and then 2 mm along the full length and having a spade-like ending resembling P. ferox. Whether this is due to hybridism with P. ferox is still only guesswork as specimens of P. ferox at the Information Centre showed great variation from these hybrids when we inspected them. Both P. ferox and P. crassifolius are stated in books to have deflexed leaves in the juvenile state but often in the Waitakeres and certainly in the Mt. Auckland bush the young P. crassifolius usually has leaves more or less horizontal and very far from the deflexed position. Whether this is an environmental effect or due to hybridisation with say, P. lessonii would involve further study.

Plants noted by members were:-

FERNS

	<u>Hebe stricta</u>
	<u>Hedycarya arborea</u>
<u>Asplenium flaccidum</u>	<u>Ixerba brexioides</u>
<u>Elechnum capense</u>	<u>Knightia excelsa</u>
" discolor	<u>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</u>
" fraseri	<u>Leptospermum ericoides</u>
" minus	" scoparium
<u>Cyathea medullaris</u>	<u>Litsea callicaris</u>
<u>Dicksonia squarrosa</u>	<u>Lophomyrtus bullata</u>
	<u>Meliclytus macrophyllus</u>

GYMNOSEPERMS

	" micranthus
	" ramiflorus
<u>Agathis australis</u>	<u>Metrosideros fulgens</u>
<u>Dacrydium cupressinum</u>	<u>Myrsine australis</u>
<u>Podocarpus ferrugineus</u>	" salicina
" hallii	<u>Nestegis montana</u>
	" lanceolata

DICOTYLEDONS

	<u>Olearia rani</u>
	" furfuracea
<u>Alseuosmia macrophylla</u>	<u>Pittosporum tenuifolium</u>
<u>Beilschmiedia tawa</u>	<u>Pseudopanax arboreus</u>
<u>Clematis paniculata</u> (seeding)	" crassifolius
<u>Coprosma arborea</u>	" edgerleyi
" australis	<u>Rubus australis</u>
" lucida	" cissoides
" robusta	<u>Schefflera digitata</u>
<u>Cyathodes fasciculata</u>	<u>Senecio kirkii</u>
<u>Dracophyllum latifolium</u>	
<u>Elaeocarpus dentatus</u>	
<u>Griselinia lucida</u>	

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Astelia solandri
 " trinervia
 Cordyline banksii
 Earina mucronata
 Freycinetia banksii

Gahnia sp.
 Pterostylis banksii
 Rhopalostylis sapida
 Ripogonum scandens
 Thelymitra longifolia

A YEAR FOR CLEMATISJ. Beever

On a trip to Rotorua at Labour Day weekend my wife and I were amazed at the display of Clematis flower which delighted the eye for mile after mile along the Mamaku Range before we descended to Ngongotaha. There was none in the Fitzgerald Glade but higher up where more or less continuous bush starts, the first white bunches appeared and from then on for about eight miles we were never out of sight of it. Usually there was a bunch every five to ten yards near the roadside and farther back in the bush the same was again true. Sometimes a vine ran for a chain with continuous flowers draped over the dark green background. After a mile or two one became almost blase, surfeited with what is normally such a delight of spring.

Another member, Mrs Seddon, independently reported almost the same thing on the Waikaremoana road so it seems that this year the Bay of Plenty had a most wonderful flowering season for Clematis. Presumably the altitude and latitude differences accounted for the lateness of the display compared with the Auckland area.

I wonder if any members, especially country members, who have been more familiar with these areas over the years can tell us whether this is a normal flowering, or is it a bumper year. I feel that I must have seen more bunches of Clematis on this weekend than in fifty years of observation previously. I don't think even the vandals can get all of it.

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