

HYPERICUM IN THE WAITAKERES

E.D. Hatch

There are to my knowledge, 3 species of Hypericum in the Waitakeres, and a fourth listed (H. gramineum) which I have never seen.

1. H. gramineum (native) is recorded by Mead (1972 p.7) from 'open places'. It is by description an erect, wiry perennial, to 25 cm tall, with 4-angled stems, and leaves and flowers without black glands.

2. H. androsaemum (adventive). Shrub to about a metre high. Stems 2-lined (i.e. round with a wing on either side). Black glands absent from the leaves. The only local species with a succulent berry.

- persisting along one hundred metres of roadside at Huia from 1950 to the present time. Flowering November-December. E.D.H.

3. H. japonicum (native). Not listed by Mead so that this note records perhaps a new locality? A delicate, slender, prostrate or ascending, patch-forming perennial. Stems 4-angled, to about 10 cm long. Leaves and flowers without black glands. Normally a plant of pond and tarnside.

- old logging track above Mill Bay. Flowering 6.12.1981. J.Mackinder. Large patch in hollow-cum-puddle, extending up and down the track on to drier ground. It is surprising how little water some of these swamp plants can survive in (witness Sphagnum falcatulum on Cutty Grass Track).

4. H. humifusum (adventive). Rather like a robust H. japonicum. Stems 2-lined or round, to about 30 cm long, and tending to lie on the ground. Leaves with scattered black glands near the margins. Sepals noticeably unequal, 2 broad, 3 narrow.

- roadsides, Huia Road, Laingholm. Flowering 5.6.1981. E.D.H.

NAME CHANGES IN THE ORCHID GENUS CALADENIA R.Br.

E.D. Hatch

Robert Brown rightly considered himself to be the father of Australian botany, and when he published his Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae et Insulae Van-Diemen in 1810 he ignored many plant names published previously, which led, when the principle of priority later became important, to much discussion, argument and change. Arethusa catenata is a case in point.

In the Orchadian (May 1980 p.180) D.F. Blaxell of the Sydney National Herbarium has this to say -

'The type specimen of this species was collected by Surgeon-General White at Port Jackson about 1795 and despatched to J.E. Smith (the founder of the Linnean Society of London) together with specimens of other common plants of the Sydney region. The plant was illustrated in Smith's book Exotic Botany, in 1804 but the drawing was