

HYPERICUM IN THE WAITAKERESE.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 falcatum 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

somewhat aberrant for a Caladenia, so has been dismissed as an abnormal form of something ... (see for example Rupp in Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. 71:1947. p.278). However the specimen (which I examined in 1975) is still housed in the Smith herbarium in the Linnean Society of London and is a perfectly normal Caladenia carneae ... Since catenata is the older epithet it must take precedence over carnea. This Druse pointed out in 1916, but was ignored by all until Halle revised the orchids of New Caledonia in 1977 ...

So that the orchids we have been calling Caladenia carneae R.Br. now become CALADENIA CATENATA (Smith) Druse Rep. Bot. Exch. Club. 2:1916. p.611

Syn. Caladenia carneae R.Br. Prodr. 1810. p.324
Arethusa catenata J.E. Smith Exotic Botany. 2:1804. p.89.t.104

This is an exceedingly variable species in which many varieties and forms have been described. Of the 4 which can be found in the Auckland area 2 have been given the new combination -

Caladenia catenata var minor (Hock.f.) W.M. Curtis Students Flora of Tasmania 1980. p.106

Caladenia catenata var exigua (Cheesem.) W.M. Curtis ibid. p.107

and 2 have so far not -

Caladenia carneae var bartlettii Hatch Trans.R.S.N.Z. 77:1949. p.402

Caladenia carneae var minor forma calliniger Hatch Trans.R.S.N.Z. Bot. 2: 1963. p.187

I am indebted to Dr. Ella Campbell for a copy of the Orchadian paper and Mr. D.F. Blaxell for the relevant pages of Curtis.

WHY SPANIARD?

J. Beever

In 1926 Johannes Andersen in the Transactions of the N.Z. Institute Vol. 56, pp.659-714 published a long article, "Popular Names of New Zealand Plants", in which he wrote, "The same remark applies to the name for Aciphylla - spaniard - another name of unexplained origin." Under the list for Aciphylla species he gave over 20 popular names which however reduce to only three basic non-maori names. They are, speargrass, bayonet grass (or plant) and spaniard with numerous adjectives e.g. greater, wild, bloody &c. Like Andersen I could not see a reason for the name but I now know that the germ of the answer was there, if we could only have been a little more perspicacious.

Recently in a newspaper article I read a name which in a flash gave me the answer. I found the book referred to; it is unpublished but was completed in 1977. A copy is held in the National Library and another copy in the Auckland Institute and Museum library. It is called, "The Pioneer Land Surveyors of New Zealand", and was compiled from biographical notes on 900 early surveyors from 1840-1900 by Charles A. Lawn F.N.Z.I.S. of Onehunga who retired in 1958 as the Chief Surveyor of the Lands and Survey Department in Auckland.