

MOSES OF WHANGARURU NORTH HEADJessica E. Beever

Whangaruru North Head must be one of the most attractive Scenic Reserves of the North Auckland Land District. Although located some 20 km south of Cape Brett it is administered as part of the Bay of Islands Maritime and Historic Park, and comprises 241 hectares of farmland, pasture reverting to forest, and coastal forest remnants. From the highest point, at 198 m, the land drops steeply to the exposed greywacke sea coast along the eastern edge of the peninsula, but slopes more gently to the west where sheltered beaches lie along the Whangaruru Harbour foreshore.

The following list of 84 moss species, plus 2 varieties, was compiled following fieldwork in the Reserve in December 1984. The most exciting find was Syrrhopodon fimbriatulus. This moss was first reported in New Zealand at Hot Water Beach on the Coromandel east coast (Reese and Bartlett, 1982) and is the only member of the tropical moss family Calymperaceae known in this country, apparently having just a toe-hold on our warmest northern coasts. The plants are very distinctive under the microscope, with the leaves having large hyaline teeth along parts of their margins and with a cluster of gemmae at the leaf apex. On Whangaruru North Head this moss was found growing in abundance on the trunks of two individuals of the tree-fern Cyathea dealbata, shaded in kanuka/pohutukawa forest near the centre of the peninsula.

I am grateful to Allan Fife for the help with several determinations. Vouchers of all species will be deposited in the Herbarium of Botany Division, DSIR.

THE LIST

- Achrophyllum dentatum* (H.f. & W.) Vitt & Crosby
A. quadrifarium (Hook.) Vitt & Crosby
Barbula australasiae (Hook. & Grev.) Brid.
B. unguiculata Hedw.
Brachythecium rutabulum (Hedw.) B.S.G.
Breutelia pendula (Smith) Mitt.
Bryum argenteum Hedw.
B. billardieri Schwaegr. var. *platyloma* Mohad.
B. campylothecium Tayl.
B. clavatum (Schimp.) C.Muell.
B. dichotomum Hedw.
B. microerythrocarpum C.Muell. & Kindb.
B. sauteri B.S.G.
Bryum sp.
Calomnion laetum H.f. & W.
Campochaete arbuscula (Sm.) Reichdt.
C. pulvinata (H.f. & W.) Jaeg.
Campylopus clavatus (R.Br.) Wils.
C. introflexus (Hedw.) Brid.
C. pyriformis (K.F.Schultz) Brid.
Catagonium politum (H.f. & W.) Dus. ex Broth.
Catharomnion ciliatum (Hedw.) Wils.
Cyathophorum bulbosum (Hedw.) C.Muell.
Dicranoloma fasciatum (Hedw.) Par.
D. menziesii (Tayl.) Par.

- Distichophyllum crispulum* (H.f. & W.) Mitt.
Ditrichum difficile (Dub.) Fleisch.
Echinodium hispidum (H.f. & W.) Reichdt.
E. umbrosum (Mitt.) Jaeg.
Eriopus brownii Dix.
Eurhynchium asperipes (Mitt.) Dix.
E. praelongum (Hedw.) B.S.G.
Fissidens asplenioides Hedw.
F. humilis Dix. & Watts var. *allisonii* Dix. & Sainsb.
F. humilis Dix. & Watts var. *angustifolius* Dix.
F. leptocladus C.Muell. & Rodw.
F. oblongifolius H.f. & W.
F. pallidus H.f. & W.
F. pungens C.M. & Hampe
F. rigidulus H.f. & W.
F. tenellus H.f. & W.
Funaria glabra Tayl.
Haplohymenium huttonii (Mitt.) Broth.
Homalia falcifolia (H.f. & W.) H.f. & W.
H. pulchella H.f. & W.
Hymenodon pilifer H.f. & W.
Hypnodendron arcuatum (Hedw.) Lindb. ex Mitt.
H. colensoi (H.f. & W.) Mitt.
Hypnum chrysogaster C.Muell.
H. cupressiforme Hedw. var. *cupressiforme*
H. cupressiforme Hedw. var. *mossmanianum* (C.Muell.) Ando
Hypopterygium rotulatum (Hedw.) Brid.
Leptostomum macrocarpum (Hedw.) Pyl.
Leucobryum candidum (P.Beauv.) Wils.
Lopidium concinnum (Hook.) Wils.
Macrocoma tenue (Hook. & Grev.) Vitt
Macromitrium gracile (Hook.) Schwaegr.
M. ligulare Mitt.
Orthodontium lineare Schwaegr.
Orthorrhynchium elegans (H.f. & W.) Reichdt.
Papillaria crocea (Hampe) Jaeg.
Philonotis tenuis (Tayl.) Reichdt.
Physcomitrium pyriforme (Hedw.) Hampe
Pogonatum subulatum (Brid.) Brid.
Polytrichadelphus magellanicus (Hedw.) Mitt.
Ptychomitrium australe (Hampe) Jaeg.
Ptychomnion aciculare (Brid.) Mitt.
Racopilum convolutaceum (C.Muell.) Reichdt.
Rhynchostegium tenuifolium (Hedw.) Reichdt.
Sematophyllum amoenum (Hedw.) Mitt.
S. contiguum (Mitt.) Mitt. in Seeman
Syrrhopodon fimbriatulus C.Muell.
Tayloria callophylla (C.Muell.) Mitt.
Thamnobryum pandum (H.f. & W.) Stone & Scott
Thuidium furfurosum (H.f. & W.) Reichdt.
T. sparsum (H.f. & W.) Jaeg.
Tortella rubripes (Mitt.) Broth.
Tortula laevipila (Brid.) Schwaegr.
T. papillosa Wils.
Trichostomum brachydontium Bruch
Triquetrella papillata (H.f. & W.) Broth.
Weissia controversa Hedw.

Weymouthia mollis (Hedw.) Broth.
Wijkia extenuata (Brid.) Crum
Wilsoniella blindioides (Broth.) Sainsb.
Zygodon intermedius B.S.G.

REFERENCE

Reese, W.D. and Bartlett, J.K. (1982) *J. Bryol.* 12: 209-214.

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EASTER WEEKEND ON MAYOR ISLAND

R.E. Silvester

Having spent Easter weekend on Mayor Island these plants were noted:

Litsea calicaris in bloom.

Dysoxylum spectabile numerous capsules showing red seeds.

Metrosideros excelsa heavy seed crop.

Bulbophyllum pygmaeum numerous large colonies still carrying a few flowers,

Drymoanthus adversus common, only seed pods. Both orchids found on Knightia excelsa, often sharing the same tree. Crater rim track to trig station.

Schizaea dichotoma all stages of development, abundant in tea tree scrub, green lake, otherwise found now and then in well lit areas of scrub. Best specimens near the lake.

Cheilanthes distans, C. sieberi growing in the same area, top of staircase, cliff top in pumice like soil.

Spirodela oligorrhiza margin of black lake in shady areas. Very little colour on ventral surface but numerous roots, dorsal surface showing three veins on some samples. Lemna minor was recorded from Mayor Island but not Spirodela on a list published years ago in TANE.

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CALADENIA LYALLII - AN ERROR CORRECTED

E.D. Hatch

In the Newsletter 39: July 1984, p. 40, D.P. McCrae recorded Caladenia lyallii from near Kaitaia. This struck me as being ecologically improbable and next time we met I questioned Mr. McCrae closely. The plants were in fact robust Caladenia catenata.