

New Records of Vascular Plants from D'Urville Island, Marlborough Sounds

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SUMMARY

Twelve indigenous taxa and five naturalised taxa are recorded for the first time from D'Urville Island, and the status of some earlier records clarified.

INTRODUCTION

The botanical documentation of D'Urville Island, in the Marlborough Sounds, began when the 'Endeavour', captained by James Cook, anchored off Whareatea on 26 March 1770. The next day Banks and Solander, who had been unable to land anywhere during the circumnavigation of the South Island, went eagerly ashore but were disappointed in not being able to find any new plants. A few days later they tried again with more success and as Banks notes "I got 3 plants which we had not before seen" (Beaglehole 1962). These included *Celmisia gracilentia* which Sidney Parkinson drew (his sketch is reproduced by Begg & Begg 1969). In all, Banks and Solander recorded 14 species (Hatch 1982). The next botanical visitor was Dumont d'Urville, who visited in 1827 and collected a few plants on 'his' island while preparing for his celebrated passage through French Pass (Wright 1950). The first substantial account of the flora is that of W R B Oliver (Oliver 1944), who made a number of visits to the island from 1922 to 1943. Following Oliver's visits the pace of botanical exploration quickened and many new additions were made. They were collated by C C Ogle who listed over 450 indigenous, and over 100 naturalised, taxa for the island (Ogle 1983). Subsequently, *Alepis flavida* was found (Ogle & Wilson 1985) bringing the number of mistletoes on the island to five, and confirming its claim as an important refuge for these possum-susceptible plants. *Celmisia hieracifolia* has been reported from the mineral belt (Anonymous ?1987), but this record needs confirmation.

The Offshore Island Research Group (OIRG) expedition to D'Urville Island, 16-24 January 1988, was based at Kupe Bay, in the south-west sector of the island, and most time was spent in the area west of a line drawn from Smylies Arm, south to Kapowai. The present paper lists 17 new records found by the expedition, and comments on some other records. Vouchers for most of the new records are lodged in the herbarium of the National Museum (WELT). An asterisk indicates adventive taxa.

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NOTES ON TAXA

Ferns

Adiantum formosum R.Br.

Ogle (1983) records this species on the basis of a single specimen collected by A Hutson at Cherry Bay in 1948 (CHR 62007). It was originally determined by W F Harris as *A. hispidulum* Swartz but, according to Ogle, was redetermined by A P Druce as *A. formosum*. However the shape of the ultimate pinnules and the presence of brown hairs on their undersides indicate it is an unusually highly divided form of *A. fulvum* Raoul, a species already recorded from the island by Ogle (1983) on the basis of another specimen collected by A Hutson at Cherry Bay.

Adiantum viridescens Col.

Confirmed record. Ogle (1983) suggests that a record of this species by M Wassilief may have been based on *A. fulvum*. However we found this species in kohekohe forest at Kupe Bay (WELT P15203) indicating that both taxa are present.

Asplenium bulbiferum subsp. *gracillimum* (Col.) Brownsey

New record. Ogle (1983) comments that this subspecies 'could be expected'. Occasional in kohekohe forest, Kupe Bay (WELT P15225).

Asplenium terrestre Brownsey subsp. *terrestre*

New record. In nooks, on and around argillite outcrops on the mineral belt (WELT P15190).

Blechnum membranaceum (Hook.) Mett.

New record. In kohekohe forest, Kupe Bay (WELT P15204).

Botrychium biforme Col.

New record. Uncommon, one colony at forest margin near Mineral Belt trig (WELT P15192).

Hypolepis ambigua (A. Rich.) Brownsey et Chinnock

Recorded by Ogle (1983) as *Hypolepis* sp. (a). In rough pasture, Kupe Bay (WELT P15222).

Polystichum silvaticum (Col.) Diels

New record. Occasional in forest south of Wells Peak (WELT P15151).

Rumohra adiantiformis (Forst. f.) Ching

New record. Occasional in beech forest, eastern side of Mt Maude near road to Bullock Bay (WELT P15172).

Monocotyledons

**Asparagus scandens* Thunb.

Climbing asparagus. Occasional in coastal forest remnant, Kupe Bay (WELT 71035). The record by Ogle (1983) of "climbing asparagus, *Asparagus* sp. (undetermined)", from scrub close to beach at Kapowai was probably this species (C C Ogle pers. comm.).

**Crocoshmia* × *crocoshmiiiflora* (Nicholson) N E Brown

New record. Montbretia. One small clump near a farmhouse, Kupe Bay (WELT 71034).

Gahnia lacera (A. Rich.) Steud.

Ogle (1983) records one plant northeast of Mt Ears, the first record of this species from the 'South Island'. We found it locally abundant under kanuka at Smylies Arm, and J Walls (pers. comm.) has found it at Port Hardy.

Gastrodia cunninghamii Hook. f.

New record. Uncommon in red beech forest, southern slopes of Mt Maude (WELT 78770).

**Hordeum murinum* L.

New record. Barley grass. Occasional in pasture, Kupe Bay (WELT 71038), and on stack northeast of Taunahaika Island.

Microtis parviflora R. Br.

New record. Uncommon in rough pasture, Kupe Bay (WELT 78771).

Dicotyledons

**Brassica napus* L.

New record. Eroding coastal cliffs, Kupe Bay (WELT 71041).

**Chamaecytisus palmensis* (Chris) Bisby et K. Nicholls

New record. Tree lucerne. Occasional on coastal cliffs and forest margin, Kupe Bay (WELT 71039).

Discaria toumatou Raoul

New record. Matagouri. A colony of 50-100 plants in the headwaters of the Wharairiki Bay catchment (NZMS 260: P26/825373).

**Lactuca serriola* L.

New record. Acrid lettuce. Weed in derelict farm house garden, Kupe Bay (WELT 71040, 71043).

Pelargonium inodorum Willd.

New record. Kopata. Occasional along disturbed track margin, manuka-kanuka forest, Kupe Bay (WELT 78761).

Pseudopanax crassifolius (A. Cunn.) C. Koch \times *P. arboreus* (Murray) Philipson var. *arboreus*

New record. J Walls (pers. comm.) found a small individual of this hybrid near Port Hardy in 1983.

Ranunculus amphitrichus Col.

New record. Wharairiki Bay (WELT 78760).

**Ranunculus sceleratus* L.

New record. Celery-leaved buttercup. Damp margin, Te Puna Lagoon (WELT 71033).

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A BotSoc Song

by B J M

(Tune: "The People's Flag".)

AM

Before the dawn breaks in the sky
The billy boils, por . . . ridge* is nigh -
Bestir yourselves! Forsake the pit -
Or there'll be nothing left of it!

CHÓRUS (mit feeling)

Euphrasia, Celmisia, Coprosma foetidissima . . .
We love them more than we can tell,
And try our best to learn them well.

LUNCH

The Vegemite's mixed up with jam
The cheese is green, there's no more ham,
But never ones to moan and curse,
BotSocers say, "It could be worse".

CHORUS Euphrasia, etc . . .

PM

One hundred metres up we climb
(This was an easy line to rhyme):
Smoke spirals high, the brew is nigh,
Thank God for that - we were so dry!

CHORUS Euphrasia, etc . . .

Our tannin levels now correct,
We're more inclined to genuflect;
With lens to eye and bums on high
We hunt Lobelia roughii.

CHORUS Euphrasia, etc . . .

EVENING

The evening sun has long since sunk,
The moon and stars have done a bunk;
The fire's gone out, a morepork calls
And silence on the campsite falls.

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