

depression amongst Manuka, Leptospermum scoparium (CHR 385840)

Myosurus novae-zelandiae - Bearded Mousetail. Killinchy, Canterbury Plains; on sand dunes (CHR 386390)

Triglochin palustre - Marsh Arrow-grass. Hydra Waters, Rakaia River; on damp trampled sands and muds (CHR 385836).

Hymenophyllum atrovirens - filmy fern. Cranky Tom Stream, Motanau; amongst mosses and liverworts on steep banks (CHR 385865).

Hymenophyllum minimum - filmy Fern. Cranky Tom Stream; Motunau; amongst mosses and lichens on steep banks, (CHR 385363). Washpen Creek, Rockwood Range, amongst mosses and liverworts on damp forested banks (CHR 386788)

Hymenophyllum rarum - Filmy Fern. Washpen Creek, Rockwood Range, amongst mosses and liverworts on damp forested banks. (CHR 386787)

NOTES: Southern Rata, Metrosideros umbellata, is now being found in many foothill sites, especially behind Hororata (hence its name) and in many places in the Rakaia headwaters. The upper Rakaia also supports many populations of leatherwood, Olearia colensoi, particularly in the Mathias and Wilberforce branches. Kamahi, Weinmannia racemosa, is less common but nevertheless present, especially in the Wilberforce branch.

#### A FUNGAL FIND ON THE PORT HILLS.

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A fungal foray in May on the Port Hills as part of a University Extension studies course on Toadstools and Mushrooms, brought an unexpected find, and a great deal of pleasure to the writer. In the afternoon in the bush near Coopers Knob, I collected two specimens and noticing the decurrent gills, thought they could belong to the genus Lactarius - however, a slight cut with knife produced no milk, so I showed them to our tutor, Dr. Greta Stevenson

who made a preliminary identification of Hygrophoropsis umbriceps, later confirmed after she had the opportunity to do some detailed work.

Only two previous specimens are known in the world, the holotype collected by S. Berggren at Maungaroa, North of Wellington in 1870 and described by Cooke (Kew) the famous British mycologist in 1879; the other by Dr Stevenson herself in Keith George Park, Wellington, over a hundred years later in 1980.

Both specimens, one the best yet collected, are now in the Botany Department Herbarium, CANU.

The fungus is a handsome toadstool with a cup-shaped top velvety inside covered by purplish brown fibrils. The yellowish decurrent gills are regularly forked and this is immediately a distinguishing character.

We should be pleased to hear of any other sightings of this fungus.

*Hygrophoropsis umbriceps*.

