

ADDITIONS TO NATIVE INVASION – AMONG THE MOSSES OF CHRISTCHURCH

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This short list shows additions and changes to, and one deletion from the list of mosses published in the last number of this Journal (Macmillan 2004). In part, it results from the "Bioblitz" exercise in which the public were invited to explore the biological richness of Christchurch in April 2005. (www.landcareresearch.co.nz/biodiversity.bioblitz). This showed the Botanic Gardens, with its many different habitats, to be the richest locality for mosses in the city. The list, however, is subject to the changes inherent in good garden practice.

I also draw attention to the fine publication by the City Council "Christchurch Naturally – discovering the city's wild side", which includes three beautiful photographs of mosses on the dry plains.

Achrophyllum dentatum was noted in 2004 to have been seen only in Riccarton Bush. This is not so, as it grows in backwaters of the Waimakariri River at Coutts Island and The Groyne's recreation park.

Didymodon torquata is an addition to the 2004 list. It grows on graves in St. Peter's churchyard, Riccarton, and St. Paul's churchyard, Papanui.

Distichium capillaceum should be removed from the 2004 list. The specimen, from the Botanic Gardens, is more likely to be *Ditrichum difficile* which is widespread in the city.

Amblystegium serpens is a very slender moss of temperate northern and southern hemispheres. It was known to Sainsbury (1955) from Hawke's Bay and Wanganui only. It was first recorded by Colin Meurk at Horseshoe Lake (Meurk et al. 1993), but seems to have increased markedly in the city in recent years, and now is quite weedy on certain nursery pots, marshy ground, and at the base and lower trunk of trees. Jessica Beever (1994) included *Amblystegium serpens* among other mosses forming luxuriant growth on bases of *Carex secta* at Onehunga Springs, Auckland city."

REFERENCES

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- Meurk, C.D.; Ward, J.C.; O'Connor, K.F. 1993: Natural areas of Christchurch: evaluation and recommendations for management as heritage. Report to the Christchurch City Council.
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Myosotis 'australis var. lytteltonensis'