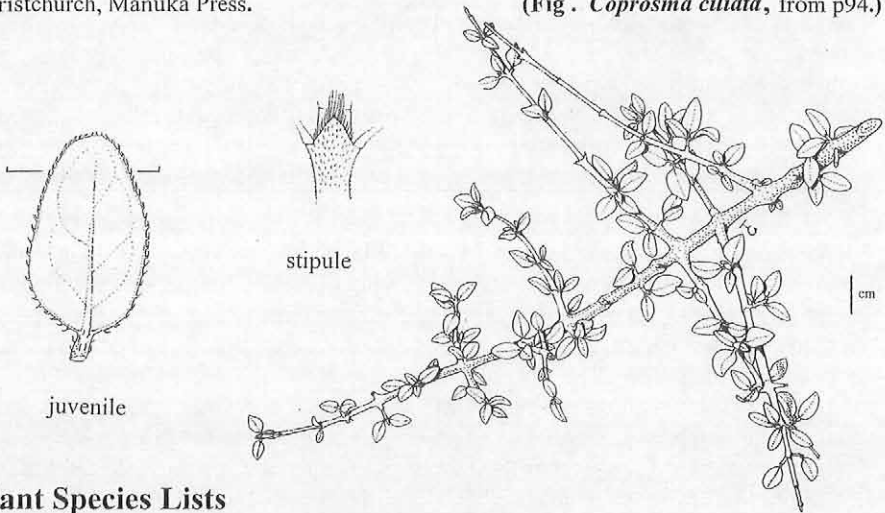


Reference: Wilson, H.D and T. Galloway (1993). *Small-leaved shrubs of New Zealand*. Christchurch, Manuka Press.

(Fig . *Coprosma ciliata*, from p94.)



Plant Species Lists

- comments from an itinerant field tripper

Wonderful news that Graeme Jane is making his species lists available through the Otago Bot. Soc. (Newsletter #30, Feb-Mar. 2002). I first encountered Graeme's lists a few years ago in the Lewis Pass region. Since then I've continued to use his lists to the point where they have higher priority than even the makings for a brew of tea! What's behind this priority for a mere dabbler in plants? Use of the lists has evolved in a way that has surprised even me and added much more value to the short time I spend in the field. I hope my comments appeal to other Bot. Soc. members and encourage greater use of and support for Graeme's work.

Graeme can produce lists that are grouped under headings (trees & shrubs, lianes, ferns, orchids, etc) or in alphabetical order (genus, then species). Most of my experience has been with the grouped lists. However, the alphabetical format is a boon when I hear an unfamiliar name (eg "*Huperzia australe*") and sense that I've used up my quota of newbie questions to the experts present. Not having any idea of even the plant group, a quick scan down the alphabetical list shows me the name plus any previous names, including common names and whether the plant is introduced or native. These new names for old are a big plus for me in both forms of the lists.

At first I used the plant lists as checklists. As I wandered, plants were ticked off and I generally felt fulfilled at gaining a better understanding of a particular locality. How limited this was in hindsight. Subsequent talks or reading about a locality or region, would make me realise my ignorance and the lost opportunities to learn - plants I'd missed or even wrongly identified. It took me a while to realise that neither Graeme nor his lists can be telepathic and highlight what is of most interest to me. While this may be blindingly obvious to everyone else, it took me some time to understand that I would have to initiate interaction with the lists BEFORE a field trip.

When embarking on a field trip I now pull out Graeme's lists for localities or regions nearest to where I'm heading. A week or so prior to a trip is essential for me to look at these lists - before the rush of tucker buying and packing gear. The grouped list allows me to highlight particular species that I believe need re-acquaintance, need to know better, or are a total surprise. I'm now able to do some mild consulting of texts and illustrations that give me a mental view of what to expect. Such simple preparation has given me a greater feeling of discovery and enjoyment of plants.

Perusal of lists forces my attention to name changes (eg *Lepidothamnus* for *Dacrydium*) that I'm struggling to relearn. Plants new to me may have common names that are easier for me to learn than a Latin binomial - all listed by Graeme. Better still are those tricky (for me) unnamed species with their tag names, the varieties, the aggregates and those restricted to one locality. A bonus for me has been to scroll through these lists on a computer screen. Usually I find it difficult to read from a screen and prefer the printed format, but not with Graeme's lists. The restricted view through a screen forces my attention to one group of species at a time and allows me to linger and ponder as to what I would really like to get out of the coming field trip.

Anyone with lists to add to Graeme's database will benefit from all his cross-referencing of names, updating, and user-friendly choice of list format.
Thanks Graeme.

Tony Aldridge, Christchurch

LIST

Species lists held for West Coast, South Island – Graeme Jane, 20.1.02

<p>HARI HARI</p> <p>Alexs Knob track - bush Alexs Knob track - scrub and grass Bold Head Ecological Area Cammel -Kokatahi - Basic waterfall Canavans Knob ferns - Franz Chalet Walk - Fox Douglas Walk - Franz Ianthe Forest - Mystery Hills Jones Creek Walkway – Ross Lake Kaniere WW - eastern end to hut Mananui forest Mt Bonar – Harihari Mt Hercules – Harihari Okarito - hill track along coast Okarito - 3 mile lagoon Okarito coast Okarito dune forest - Blanchards Bluff Saltwater Ecological Area</p>	<p>KARAMEA</p> <p>Elfin Forest Gunner Downs +alpine Karamea Bluff Karamea Bluff Scenic Reserve Karamea School Karamea coastal Karamea estuary Karamea forests Karamea swamps Kongahu swamp Lake Hanlon Oparara Total Karamea</p> <p>LEWIS - REEFTON</p> <p>Albone Walk Big River Road Garvie Creek Coal M Giles Creek</p>
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<p>HARI HARI ctd. Totara River (Ross) - bog pine forest Upper Wanganui River Wanganui - Poerua Walkway Wanganui Valley - track to 1st bridge Westland National Park - NZJB13:497 Wilberg Range - Wanganui river</p> <p>PAPAROAS Charleston Beach (Cemetery) Fox River - Paparoas Nile River Mouth Pancake Rocks - Punakaeki Seal Point - Punakaeki Truman Track - Punakaeki</p> <p>SOUTH WESTLAND Cascade valley flats Lake Gault from bush edge Lake Matheson Track</p>	<p>LEWIS – REEFTON ctd. Kirwan's Hill - tops from hut Kirwan's Hill - track from Cronadin Klondike Spur track Klondike Tarns, Rahu Mt Haast Mt Raoulia - Paparoas Mueller Tarn track- Lewis Pass Rahu River Right Branch Rough Creek -Lewis Pass</p> <p>MID WESTLAND Mt French - Hohonu Ra Mt Greenland - from Ross to summit</p> <p>WESTPORT Cape Foulwind =F290 Estuary Westport - Karama side Mt Flemming Nile River Westport Terrace forest near estuary</p>
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Graeme is happy to make these lists of vascular plant species available to Botanical Society members (see Newsletter 30). Also, he is very keen to add to his database, so if you have species lists from any Otago, Southland or West Coast areas not listed here nor in the last newsletter please forward them to him at GTJane@clear.net.nz – ed.

Pronunciation of Botanical Latin – John Steel

“Latin is a dead language”; “Latin words are too difficult to say”; “What does it matter, how it’s said?”. I’m sure we’ve all heard phrases to this effect over the years and recently I was asked to ‘rule’ on pronunciation for some Botanical Latin words. Firstly, I’ll deal with the three comments above. Latin is definitely not a dead language. Anyone reading this uses Latin everyday of their lives. Just as English has changed almost beyond recognition (to the uninitiated at least) over the years, so too has Latin, but neither has gone away. Latin words are remarkably simple to say; a simple rule of thumb is to pronounce every vowel, and you’ll be well on your way. Does pronunciation matter? Of course it does! Otherwise one would not be understood. But this is where it becomes tricky! Latin is no different from any other language in that pronunciation differs from place to place and between one social group and another. The question really is, “Is there a universal pronunciation?”. The answer is, “Yes”. Whether we choose to use this instead of, or as well as, local pronunciation, becomes a matter of situation and/or preference.