

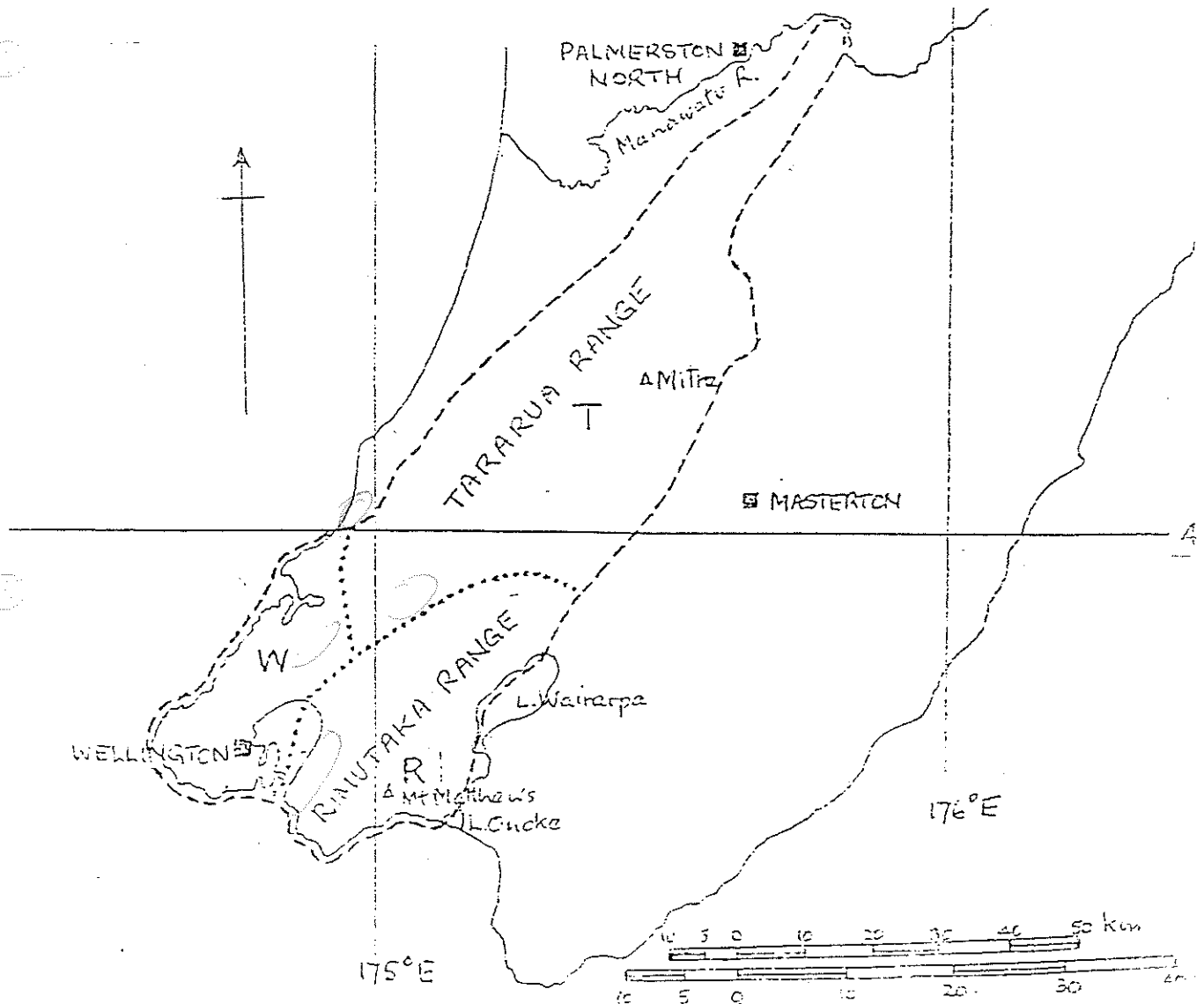
# The flora of the Tararua and Rimutaka Range

report prepared by John Sawyer

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This information has been taken from the Druce List No. 134: Indigenous Vascular Plants of the Tararua Range, Rimutaka Range and Western Wellington Hills, S.L. - 1566 M (5154 ft) most recently revised in **January 1984**. The list may need some revision. The list does, however, provide a useful picture of the flora of the Tararua and Rimutaka Ranges. The area covered by this list is shown in the map below.

The conservancy threatened species database was used to identify the elements of the flora that are threatened at a national level and a regional level.



Map showing area covered by Druce list no. 134

The Tararua and Rimutaka Ranges fall principally within the Tararua Ecological region although the northern end of the Tararua range is within the Manawatu Gorge South Ecological Region.

	TARARUA RANGE	RIMUTAKA RANGE
No of indigenous plants	739	733
% of Indigenous flora of New Zealand (n= 2470 according to Druce 1993)	29.9%	29.6%
No of local endemic species	8	3
No. of local endemic varieties	2	1
Number of nationally threatened species	6 (1 Endangered, 2 Vulnerable, 2 Rare, 1 Local)	23 (4 Endangered, 10 Vulnerable, 5 Rare, 3 Local, 1 Unknown)
Number of regionally threatened species	47 (4 probably Extinct, 3 Critical, 10 Endangered, 2 Vulnerable, 20 Susceptible, 11 Low Risk, 23 Unknown)	88 (14 probably Extinct, 4 Critical, 10 Endangered, 6 Vulnerable, 20 Susceptible, 11 Low Risk, 23 Unknown)
Special characteristics of the flora and importance of the Range for plant communities	Continuous mountain chain from 40° 23' south to 41° 7' south.	Continuous mountain chain from 41° 7' south to 41° 27' south.
Special plant communities (habitats) in the Tararua Range		

Note that the low numbers of species that are nationally threatened may indicate that the Tararua Range is not well surveyed (not really true) or still maintains its integrity as a complete ecosystem.

**Species that, according to Druce are restricted in their North Island distribution to the Tararua and Rimutaka Ranges.** (Some additional notes are added where available).

13 plant species are believed to be restricted to Tararua Range in the North Island (but are present in South Island):

Anemone tenuicaulis	south)
Brachyglottis adamsii	Gunnera mixta
Celmisia allanii ? SI only?	Hebe canterburiensis
Chionochloa pallens var pallens	Lyperanthus antarcticus
Coprosma ciliata	Myosotis elderii
Leptinella pyrethrifolia ? (also in the Ruahine Range?)	Ranunculus foliosus ? (also from Ruahine Range)
Dracophyllum uniflorum ? (from 39°	Raoulia rubra var.

5 plant species are believed to be restricted to the Rimutaka Range in the North Island (but are present in South Island):

*Asplenium obtusatum* ss.

*Carex appressa*

*Coriaria* sp (unnamed) (probably "Rimutaka")

*Leptinella maniototo* (from western shore of Lake Wairarapa)

*Gahnia rigida* ? (may be known to occur in Pureora swampland in central North island)

5 plant species are believed to be restricted to the Tararua and Rimutaka Range in the North Island (but are present in South Island):

*Celmisia* sp. (b) (probably "Tararua")

*Chionochloa flavescens*

*Hoheria* sp. (unnamed) (probably "Tararua")

*Oreobulus strictus* ? (from 39° south southwards)

*Rytidosperma nigricans*

5 plant species are believed to be restricted to the Rimutaka Range and Wellington Hills in the North Island (but are present in South Island):

*Acaena pallida* (coastal sp. ?)

*Craspedia uniflora* var *maritima*

*Crassula kirkii*

*Hymenantha obovata* var

*Raoulia* sp. (b)