

# Alseuosmia macrophylla

## COMMON NAME

toropapa, karapapa

## FAMILY

Alseuosmiaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Alseuosmia macrophylla* A.Cunn.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

ALSMAC

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 18

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Glossy shrub with strong-smelling, obvious, red, tubular drooping flowers. Leaves glossy, wavy.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island throughout but absent from the central volcanic plateau where it is replaced by *A. turneri*. South Island, North-West Nelson only

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

## LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Can be grown from semi-hardwood cuttings though these strike with varying degrees of success. Seed is often hard to germinate. Layers readily. Prefers a semi-shaded site in a cool place with permanently damp soil. Slow growing and prone to sudden collapse during dry spells.

## THREATS

Although not considered nationally threatened this species is often heavily browsed by ungulates and possums, and rarely sets much viable seed, except where indigenous nectar feeding birds are common - such as on rodent-free offshore islands



Foliage. Photographer: Wayne Bennett



Kauaeranga Valley, October. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

## ETYMOLOGY

**alseuosmia:** Perfume grove

**macrophylla:** Big leaf

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Alseuosmia macrophylla* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/alseuosmia-macrophylla/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/alseuosmia-macrophylla/>