

Alseuosmia quercifolia

COMMON NAME

oak-leaved toropapa, toropapa, karapapa

SYNONYMS

Alseuosmia ilex A.Cunn, *A. xquercifolia* A.Cunn.

FAMILY

Alseuosmiaceae

AUTHORITY

Alseuosmia quercifolia A.Cunn.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

ALSQUE

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 18

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Shrub with glossy, variable lobed leaves (or sometime long and thin) that are pale beneath and on reddish twigs. Flowers pinkish, tubular, drooping, sweet-smelling, clustered at base of leaves. Fruit small, red, fleshy.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island only, from Te Pahi to near Awakino in the west, and in the east present to about Thames and the lower Hauraki Plains, with a few old records from East Cape.

FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, Red/Pink

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Very easy from cuttings, slow growing but easy to maintain if kept in pots, but usually tricky to plant out. Does best planted in partial shade in rich soil with a damp root run. However often prone to sudden collapse.

THREATS

Not Threatened - but often uncommon and sparse in the southern part of its range



Waharau Park, Hunua Range, October.
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Waharau Park, Hunua Range, October.
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ETYMOLOGY

alseuosmia: Perfume grove

quercifolia: Oak leaved

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

MORE INFORMATION

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