

Anisotome latifolia

SYNONYMS

Ligusticum latifolium (Hook.f.) Hook.f., *Calosciadium latifolium* (Hook.f.)
Endl. ex Walp., *Aciphylla latifolia* (Hook.f.) Cockayne

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Anisotome latifolia Hook.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

ANILAT

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Auckland and Campbell Islands.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane on peaty ground amongst boulders, tussocks and other megaherbs, more rarely under scrub and low forest. Most abundant at lower altitudes.

FEATURES

Robust perennial herb reaching up to 2 m tall. Basal leaves firmly coriaceous, ovate 0.3-0.6 x 0.1-0.2 m; 2-pinnate, leaflets in 5-7 pairs, dark green to yellow-green, ovate to lanceolate, shortly petiolulate or sessile; leaflet margins cartilaginous, pinnatifid or deeply incised into broad toothed or incised segments; teeth acute, piliferous with hairs 2.0-3.5 mm long; petioles 0.15-0.3m x 7.0-15.0 mm, subterete, with a central ridge on the somewhat flattened adaxial surface; sheaths 50-80 x 35-50 mm, prolonged at the apex into two broad lobes free from the petioles by 2-3 mm; cauline leaf sheaths markedly inflated; peduncles 20-150 mm long. Inflorescence axis up to 2 m by 10-15 mm diameter at first node. Flowers off white to pale creamy pink. Staminate flowers held within an involucre of linear to lanceolate bracts 5-15 x 1-2 mm; involucre of several linear to lanceolate bracteoles 3.0-7.0 x 0.5-1.5 mm; rays 20-40, 5-20 mm long; pedicels 20-40, 2-5 mm long. Pistillate flowers similar, involucre bracts linear to broadly lanceolate, 10-35 x 1-5 mm, involucre bracteoles linear to lanceolate 2.0-10.0 x 0.5-2.0 mm, rays 20-40, 10-35 mm long, pedicels 15-30, 1-5 mm long; styles slender, 1-2 mm long, divergent. Mericarp elliptic, elliptic-ovate, elliptic-oblong or narrowly elliptic, 3.5-5.5-7.0 mm long; apex usually slightly narrowed and obtuse, sometimes rounded, base obtuse to truncate; 2-5-ribbed; ribs usually even, sometimes irregular, equal thin, finely winged with a narrow hyaline margin. Surface dull; ribs yellow, dark yellow or orange; vittae usually obscured in mature mericarps, if visible dark red-brown.



Sub Antarctic Islands. Photographer: Chris Rance



Campbell Island. Photographer: John Barkla

SIMILAR TAXA

Probably allied to *A. acutifolia* Kirk, *A. antipoda* Hook.f. and *A. lyallii* Hook.f., four species that can grow as tall as 2 m when flowering and are confined to the southern South Island and Stewart Island (*A. lyallii*) or the subantarctic Islands (*A. acutifolia*, *A. antipoda* and *A. latifolia*). *A. latifolia* is sympatric on the Auckland and Campbell Islands with *A. antipoda* from which it can be easily distinguished by its much more coarsely divided leaves, and off white to pale pink rather than dark pink to magenta flowers.

FLOWERING

October - February

FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

FRUITING

January - March

LIFE CYCLE

Winged mericarps are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed. Easily grown in a deep, peaty, permanently damp soil. Resent hot, humid weather and prone to collapse under such conditions. A beautiful plant that deserves to be more widely cultivated than it currently is.

THREATS

Not Threatened. Listed because it is naturally confined to a small geographic area. It is abundant on Campbell and common on those islands of the Auckland group free of browsing animals.

ETYMOLOGY

anisotome: Unequal sided

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2007. Description based on Dawson (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Dawson, J.W. 1961: A revision of the genus *Anisotome* (Umbelliferae). *University of California Publications in Botany* 33: 1-98.

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* 11: 285-309

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Anisotome latifolia* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anisotome-latifolia/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anisotome-latifolia/>