

# Coprosma dumosa

## SYNONYMS

*Coprosma parviflora* var. *dumosa* Cheeseman; *Coprosma tayloriae* A.P.Druce ex G.T.Jane

## FAMILY

Rubiaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Coprosma dumosa* (Cheeseman) G.T.Jane

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

COPDMO

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 132

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A bushy, small-leaved shrub with 'layered' branches; mostly common in higher rainfall montane forests and shrublands from the Kaimai Range southwards to Stewart Island." Also in the drier South Island. Leaves small, elliptic, 4-6mm long, in clusters of pairs, thick, with 1-2 pits on underside, main vein on underside reaching the leaf tip, with tiny hairs on margin in wet areas. Fruit orange or red (mostly white/translucent in North Island).

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island from Kaimai Range south; South Island (rare in Fiordland), Stewart Island.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Most likely to be confused with *Coprosma parviflora* Hook.f. which differs by the undersides of leaves being distinctly hairy (glabrous to glabrescent in *C. dumosa*), violet black fruits (white, pink or yellow in *C. dumosa*), and different chromosome number (2n = 132 in *C. parviflora*, 2n = 88 in *C. dumosa*). Furthermore, *C. parviflora* is confined to the northern North Island.

## FLOWERING

October - November (-January)

## FRUITING

February-April (-October)



Huiarau range. April. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Huiarau range. April. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed, and semi-hardwood cuttings. In warmer climates does best in a shaded site or planted within a deep, moist soil.

## ETYMOLOGY

**coprosma:** From the Greek kopros 'dung' and osme 'smell', referring to the foul smell of the species, literally 'dung smell'

**dumosa:** Bushy or shrubby

## 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 11: 285-309

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/coprosma-dumosa/>