

Fuscospora truncata

COMMON NAMES

hard beech, tawhairaunui

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Tall forest tree bearing masses of small bluntly-toothed leaves that only occasionally have a small hairy pit at the junction of the veins. Leaves 2.5–3.5 cm long, teeth irregular in size. Flowers and fruit small and usually inconspicuous but change colour of tree when in flower.

FLOWER COLOURS

Orange, Yellow

GENUS

Fuscospora

FAMILY

Nothofagaceae

AUTHORITY

Fuscospora truncata (Colenso) Heenan et Smissen

SYNONYMS

Fagus truncata Colenso, *Nothofagus truncata* (Colenso) Cockayne

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

NVS CODE

FUSTRU

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 26



Remutaka Forest Park. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 10/07/2002, Licence: CC BY.



Remutaka Forest Park. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 10/07/2002, Licence: CC BY.

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: CI, DPS, DPT, PF, RF, Sp Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the [“Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland”](#) Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Anonymous. 1946. Note on *Nothofagus truncata*. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal* 3: 5–6.

Anonymous. 1957. Construction of key for the genus *Nothofagus*. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal* 14: 2–3.

Cameron EK. 1997. Distribution of beech in the Waitakere Ranges. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal* 52: 68–72.

Greenwood RM. 1959. Hard beech in the Tararuas. *Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin* 31: 15–18.

Heenan PB, Smitsen RD. 2013. Revised circumscription of *Nothofagus* and recognition of the segregate genera *Fuscospora*, *Lophozonia*, and *Trisyngyne* (Nothofagaceae). *Phytotaxa* 146: 1–31.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.146.1.1>.

Rogan D. 1999. New northern limit for hard beech *Nothofagus truncata*. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal* 54: 1.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/fuscospora-truncata/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026