

Griselinia lucida

COMMON NAMES

puka, akapuka

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

An epiphytic (sometimes terrestrial, especially on cliffs) shrub with stout, woody, descending roots that have distinctive longitudinal grooves and rough bark; bears thick glossy green rounded leaves that are paler underneath and with a noticeably uneven base. Leaves up to 18cm long by 12cm wide. Flowers small, yellowish or cream. Fruit dark purple, 5-10 long, with a small ring at tip.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

GENUS

Griselinia

FAMILY

Griselinaceae

AUTHORITY

Griselinia lucida G.Forst.

SYNONYMS

Scopolia lucida J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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

ETYMOLOGY

griselinia: After Grisellini

lucida: Shining

NVS CODE

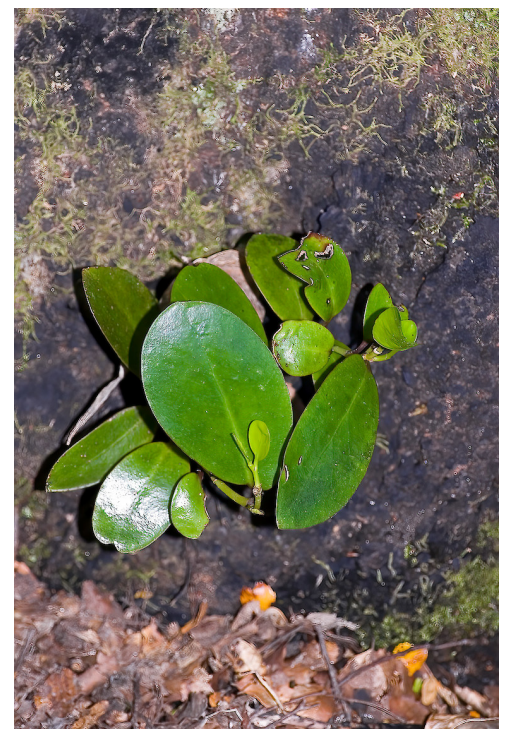
GRILUC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 36



Silverstream, Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 11/10/2006, Licence: CC BY.



Seedling on trunk of hard beech (*Fuscospora truncata*), Kwith George Memorial Scenic Reserve, Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 11/10/2006, 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 Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT 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

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/griselinia-lucida/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026