

# Phyllocladus trichomanoides

## COMMON NAME

tānekaha, celery pine

## SYNONYMS

*Phyllocladus trichomanoides* D.Don var. *trichomanoides*, *Phyllocladus rhomboidalis* A.Rich.

## FAMILY

Phyllocladaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Phyllocladus trichomanoides* D.Don

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

## NVS CODE

PHYTRI

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 18

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North and South Islands. In the North Island widespread from Te Pahi to about the northern Manawatu - after which it is scarce. In the South Island confined to the Marlborough Sounds, northern Richmond Range and North-West Nelson from Puponga south to about Kahurangi Light and across to Abel Tasman National Park.

## HABITAT

Found from sea level to c.1000 m a.s.l. Tanekaha is a common tree in northern New Zealand where it often found growing in association with kauri (*Agathis australis*) on ridge lines. Tanekaha is also common in secondary regrowth forest overlying poorly draining and/or infertile soils. It can be very common in reverting fire-induced gumland scrub. In the Central North Island tanekaha-dominated forest is locally common overlying ignimbrite rock and this forest type is very much a feature of the northern Taupo - King Country - Atiamuri area where extensive tanekaha-dominated forests are present overlying such high aspect ratio ignimbrites as the Whakamaru Ignimbrite. Further south Tanekaha is rarely such a major component of the forest canopy.



*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



*Phyllocladus trichomanoides*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

## FEATURES

Monoecious tree up to 25 m, trunk up to 1 m diameter; phylloclades alternate, pinnately arranged on whorled rhachides up to 300 mm long. Leaves of juveniles up to 20 mm long, narrow-linear, deciduous; of adults much smaller. Phylloclades 10-15 per rhachis, irregularly and broadly rhomboid, flabellately lobed, cuneate at base; lobes obtuse to truncate, margins minutely crenulate; leaf-denticles small, subulate, 1.5-3.0 mm long, up to 1.5 mm wide. Male strobili terminal in clusters of 5-10, pedicels 3-10 mm long; staminal portion c.10 mm long, apiculus small, triquetrous; carpodia rather thick, marginal on reduced final phylloclades up to 30 mm long, in clusters of 6-8; seeds nutlike, exserted beyond white, fleshy, irregularly crenulate cupule, c.3 mm long.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Tanekaha is distinguished from mountain toatoa (*Phyllocladus alpinus*) by the phylloclades which are pinnately arranged on rhachis and from toatoa (*P. toatoa*) by the seeds which arranged singly on the margins of phylloclades

## FLOWERING

September - December

## FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

## FRUITING

January - April

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Seedlings transplant well and this species is sometimes common in cultivation. It is often grown as a specimen tree in parks and does well in urban areas on street side verges. Once established tanekaha is able to tolerate full light and considerable drought but young plants do better planted in a less exposed site or at least provided with plenty of water during their early stages of establishment.

## ETYMOLOGY

**phyllocladus:** Leaf branch, referring to the leaf-like stems

**trichomanoides:** Fern-like

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

A distinct as yet undescribed species allied to *Phyllocladus trichomanoides* is known from the 120ha exposure of ultramafic rock at North Cape, Te Pahi. This unnamed species differs from *P. trichomanoides* by its shorter stature and spreading growth habit, longer phyllodes, larger fruits and longer fruiting season. It still awaits formal description. In the past this form had been referred to the hybrid *P. toatoa* x *P. trichomanoides*. However *Phyllocladus toatoa* is not known from Te Pahi and the North Cape tree comes true from seed.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 August 2004. Description adapted from Allan (1961).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/phyllocladus-trichomanoides/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/phyllocladus-trichomanoides/>