

Pittosporum ralphii

COMMON NAMES

karo

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Tree bearing greyish-green wavy leaves and bunches of dark red flowers and 1.5cm wide fruit that splits into three to show the black sticky seeds inhabiting the eastern North Island and to Wanganui. New growth covered in whiteish fuzz. Leaves 7.5–12.5cm long.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

GENUS

Pittosporum

FAMILY

Pittosporaceae

AUTHORITY

Pittosporum ralphii Kirk

TAXONOMIC NOTES

The name *P. ralphii* Kirk seems to be a later synonym for *P. crassifolium* Banks et Sol. ex A.Cunn. If correct this means that the plant described here is apparently without a valid name. Further research into this matter is needed.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

pittosporum: Pitch seed

NVS CODE

PITRAL

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 24



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PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pittosporum-ralpii/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026