

Pomaderris kumeraho

COMMON NAME

kumarahou, gum-digger's soap, golden tainui

SYNONYMS

Has been confused with the somewhat similar but distinctive Tasmanian *P. elliptica* Labill.

FAMILY

Rhamnaceae

AUTHORITY

Pomaderris kumeraho A.Cunn.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

POMKUM

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

$2n = 24$

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Shrub rarely reaching 4m tall with fuzzy twigs bearing wrinkled blunt-tipped leaves that have very prominent veins on the brownish underside. Leaves 6cm long by 3cm wide, with brownish star-shaped hairs underneath. Flowers pale yellow, in dense round clusters. Fruit dry, small.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island only from Te Pahi to just south of the Kawhia Harbour and Te Kuiti in the west and the northern Bay of Plenty in the east

HABITAT

Coastal to lowland, in open, early to mid successional habitats. Often on roadside banks, and in gumland vegetation. Occasionally seen in forested situations.

SIMILAR TAXA

Pomaderris hamiltonii L.B.Moore, which is a small tree with elliptic, dark green leaves, tapering at the base and tip, and by the more open inflorescences bearing cream-coloured flowers

FLOWERING

September - October



Pomaderris kumeraho flower buds.
Photographer: Bec Stanley



Pomaderris kumeraho flowers, October, Whangapoua. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

November - January

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Best from fresh seed which is slow to germinate. Semi-hardwood cuttings will strike but they can be slow and results variable. Best strikes have been achieved when cuttings have been placed in untreated saw dust. An attractive plant for a small garden, prefers full sun, and nutrient poor soils, resents competition, and is prone to phytophthora and verticillium wilt

ETYMOLOGY

pomaderris: Lid skin

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from garden centres, more often sold by specialist native plant nurseries.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Gardner, R. 1996. Ants and Pomaderris seeds. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 51: 96-97.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pomaderris-kumeraho/>