

**PERRY'S BUSH (703)**  
**Topomap T26 305206 Alt 110m**  
**Indigenous Vascular Plants**

Wairarapa Plains

Tony Silbery, Peter King, Pat Enright 11/07/99  
Pat Enright 25/07/99

- unc = uncommon
- + King property only
- \* McArthur property only

**Site description:**

This site is a 12 hectare bush remnant on the Wairarapa Plains bounded by Cornwall Road and Perry's Road on the north and west respectively. The area has been logged and burnt over but still retains some large podocarps. The big drought a couple of years ago killed off a great deal of the understory and dried out parts of the swampy ground (personal comm. Steve MacArthur) although the artificial pond will be draining the area as well. The area encompasses areas of alluvial flats, what looks like an old watercourse or perhaps an excavated area and a lower lying boggy area with consequent variation in vegetation cover. To the west there is a stand of elms (*Ulmus X hollandica*) and some pines (*Pinus radiata*) grow along the southern boundary. There is the odd eucalypt and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) growing towards the eastern side of the site. At the northern end the area is much more open with scattered trees and patches of shrub and a complete ground cover of periwinkle. The area is not grazed except for a tethered goat that is used to keep the grass down around an artificial pond and is fenced through the middle of the bush but the fence is in some need of repair especially where windfalls have come down across it. The southern half of the bush is owned by the King family and the northern half by the MacArthur family. A number of native species have been planted in and around the area on the King property e.g. purple akeake (*Dodonaea viscosa*), kowhai (*Sophora microphylla*), rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*), and *Olearia solandri*.

There are a few emergent kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*), matai (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*), totara (*Podocarpus totara*) and pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*) over a subcanopy of mainly titoki (*Alectryon excelsum*), tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), tarata (*Pittosporum eugenioides*) and mahoe (*Melicactus ramiflorus*). Coprosma species, poataniwha (*Melicope simplex*) and poroporo (*Solanum aviculare*) are the commonest shrub species.

The ground cover reflects the owners' endeavours to keep stock out. There are large patches of bamboo grass (*Microlaena polynoda*), where the light is sufficient, with smaller areas of *Microlaena stipoides* and bush rice grass (*Microlaena avenacea*).

This would be the best site seen for bamboo grass, which is noted as being uncommon in the Wellington conservancy (King property). Two species of hounds-tongue (*Phymatosorus pustulatus* and *P. scandens*) also form large mats and scramble up some of the trees. The shining spleenwort (*Asplenium oblongifolium*) and sickle-leaved spleenwort (*Asplenium polyodon*) are also very common. Tree ferns are uncommon with one silver fern (*Cyathea dealbata*) and two plants of wheki ponga (*Dicksonia squarrosa*) noted.

The more open northern section has a good healthy population of small mistletoe, *Korthosella lindsayi* present on *Melicope simplex*, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, *Myrsine divaricata* and *Coprosma rigida*. *Myrsine divaricata* is quite common in this area and the only occurrence of *Hoheria angustifolia* was noted here.

The sedges (*Carex* and *Uncinia* sp.) have a few species present but in low numbers and scattered occurrences in the King property but much more common on the McArthur side of the fence

There are no epiphytes other than leather leaf fern (*Pyrrosia eleagnifolia*) and the hanging spleenwort (*Asplenium flaccidum*).

The climbers are well represented by bush lawyer (*Rubus schmidelioides*), native jasmine (*Parsonsia heterophyllus*) and passionvine (*Passiflora tetrandra*)

The remnant is badly infested with weeds with wandering willie (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) and periwinkle (*Vicia sativa*) forming a complete ground cover in places to the exclusion of anything else. *Iris foetidissima* is also widespread. Old mans beard (*Clematis vitelba*) is present, but not common. Ivy (*Hedera helix*) forms some large patches at the eastern end of the site and Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) is also quite a problem in this area and to the north. Other pest species noted included barberry (*Berberis* sp.) and hawthorn. Various methods of control have been attempted with varying degrees of success.

Pest control is being carried out on the site with traps and bait stations for possums and mustelids (mainly stoats) and shooting of magpies. An attempt to trap any cats in the area is also being made.

Five hours were spent on site and the survey was thorough for the King property with three hours spent in the MacArthur property.

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides	kahikatea
Podocarpus totara	totara
Prumnopitys taxifolia	matai

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis cabbage tree	ti	kouka,
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Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus subsp. excelsus	titoki
+ Aristotelia serrata (unc) wineberry	makomako,
Beilschmiedia tawa	tawa
Brachyglottis repanda	rangiora
Coprosma areolata	
Coprosma crassifolia (unc)	
+ Coprosma grandifolia	kanono
Coprosma propinqua subsp. propinqua	mingimingi
Coprosma rhamnoides	
Coprosma rigida	
Coprosma rotundifolia	
Coprosma rubra	
Elaeocarpus dentatus (unc)	hinau
Elaeocarpus hookerianus (unc)	pokaka
+ Fuchsia excorticata (unc)	kotukutuku
Geniostoma rupestre var. linguifolium	hangehange
Hedycarya arborea	porokaiwhiri,
pigeonwood	
* Hoheria angustifolia (unc) small leaved lacebark	houhi puruhi,
Hoheria sexstylosa narrow leaved lacebark	houhi ongaonga,
+ Knightia excelsa	rewarewa
* Korthosella lindsayi	mistletoe
Laurelia novae-zelandiae	pukatea
+ Lophomyrtus bullata (unc)	ramarama
Lophomyrtus obcordata	rohutu
+ Macropiper excelsum var. excelsum	kawakawa
Melicope simplex	poataniwha
Melicytus micranthus	small leaved
mahoe	
Melicytus ramiflorus subsp. ramiflorus wood	mahoe, whitey

Myoporum laetum (unc)	ngaio
Myrsine australis	mapou
Myrsine divaricata (unc)	weeping matipo
+ Neomyrtus pedunculata (unc)	rohutu
Nestegis cunninghamii	black maire
Nestegis lanceolata	white maire
+ Olearia rani (unc)	hekatara
Pittosporum eugenioides	tarata,
lemonwood	
Pittosporum tenuifolium	kohuhu
Plagianthus regius	ribbonwood
Pseudopanax crassifolius	horoeaka,
lancewood	
+ Schefflera digitata (unc)	pate
Solanum aviculare	poroporo
Streblus heterophyllus	turepo, milk tree

#### Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens	rareao,
supplejack	

#### Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

* Calystegia tuguriorum	native bindweed
+ Clematis foetida	
Metrosideros colensoi	akakaiku
Metrosideros diffusa	akatea
+ Metsideros perforata (unc)	akatea
Muehlenbeckia australis	pohuehue
Parsonsia heterophylla	kaihua
Passiflora tetrandra	kohia,
passionvine	
Rubus schmidelioides	tataramoa, bush
Lawyer	

#### Psilopods, Lycopods and Quillworts

#### Ferns

Asplenium bulbiferum	manamana
Asplenium gracillimum	manamana
+ Asplenium flabellifolium	necklace fern
Asplenium flaccidum ss	makawe,
hanging spleenwort	
Asplenium hookerianum	

Asplenium oblongifolium	huruhuru
whenua	
Asplenium polyodon	petako
Blechnum filiforme	panako
+ Cyathea dealbata (unc)	ponga
+ Dicksonia squarrosa (unc)	wheki
Hypolepis ambigua	
Lastreopsis glabella	
Pellaea rotundifolia	tarawera
Phymatosorus pustulatus	kowaowao
Phymatosorus scandens	mokimoki
Polystichum richardii	pikopiko
Pteridium esculentum	rarahū, bracken
Pteris tremula	turawera,
shaking brake	
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia	leather-leaf fern
+ Rumohra adiantiformis (unc)	

### Orchids

### Grasses

Microlaena avenacea	
Microlaena polynoda	
Microlaena stipoides	patiti

### Sedges

Carex dissita	
Carex lambertiana	
+ Carex testacea	
Carex virgata	
Uncinia uncinata	matau a Maui

### Rushes and allied plants

* Juncus gregiflorus	wiwi
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### Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

### Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

Gnaphalium gymnocephalum

### Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

* Acaena anserinifolia	piripiri, bidibidi
Cardamine sp. (C. debilis agg.) ("Long Style" of Pritchard 1957)	

- Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Narrow Petal" of Pritchard 1957)  
+ *Dichondra* sp. (long thin petioles)  
+ *Haloragis erecta* toatoa  
*Hydrocotyle elongata*  
*Hydrocotyle heteromeria*  
*Stellaria decipiens* raumangu

**Birds:**

Fantail  
Grey warbler  
Magpie  
Morepork  
Tui  
Waxeye

