

Anisotome antipoda

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD, PD, RR

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

A large perennial member of the carrot family reaching up to 1 metre across and 1.2 metres in height when flowering. The large lush yet much-divided leaves are dark green, overtopped by a pale green flower stem with clusters of pink or mauve flowers.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout perennial plants up to 1.2 m tall. **Basal leaves** ovate to oblong 0.1-0.6 × 0.06-0.15 m, 3-4-pinnate, divisions widely divergent to divaricate, and in many planes; leaflets 5-7 pairs, ovate, shortly petiolulate to sessile, coriaceous; ultimate segments linear, 10-30 × 1-15 mm, adaxially narrowly grooved, apices pungent, acicular; **petioles** 30-300 × 3-15 mm, abaxially broadly grooved, sheaths 25-70 × 20-35 mm, apically prolonged as a broad lobe, this free from the petiole for 1-3 mm; cauline leaf sheaths inflated; peduncles 20-100 mm long, often several at a node. **Inflorescence** axis 0.6-1.2 m × 0.1-0.3 m. **Flowers** dark pink to magenta. Staminate involucre of several linear bracts 10-25 × 1-1.5 mm; involucre of similar linear bracteoles 3.0-15.0 × 0.5-1.0 mm; rays 10-25, 10-40 mm; pedicels 20-40, 2-6 mm long. Carpellate involucre similar, linear bracts 10.0-30.0 × 0.5-1.0 mm; involucre bracteoles linear, 3-15 × 0.5-1 mm, rays 10-25, 10-40 mm long, pedicels 10-30, 0.5 mm long; styles stout, 0.5-1 mm long, divergent, stigmas capitate, reddish. **Merica** narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblong (4.5-)5.0-7.0 mm long; apex and base obtuse; 3-5-ribbed, ribs even, equal, thin, narrowly winged, opaque. Surface dull, ribs pale brown, vittae obscured

SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from *Anisotome latifolia* by the much more finely divided leaves and dark pink to magenta flowers.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. **Auckland**, Motu Ihupuku | **Campbell Island** and **Antipodes Islands**.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane (0-570m.a.s.l.), on cliffs, rock ledges, sodden areas of exposed peat and in herbfield. Often sympatric with *A. latifolia*.

THREATS

Not Threatened. Listed because it is a narrow range endemic. In the past this species was seriously threatened by browsing animals on Campbell Island. Following their eradication it is now locally abundant there. On the Auckland Islands it is uncommon on the main island which still harbours feral pigs. Otherwise it is abundant on the outer islands and also the Antipodes Island group.



Campbell Island. Photographer: Jane Gosden, Licence: CC BY-NC-SA.



Campbell Island. Photographer: Jane Gosden, Licence: CC BY-NC-SA.

GENUS

Anisotome

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Anisotome antipoda Hook.f.

SYNONYMS

Calosciadium antipodum (Hook.f.) Endl. ex Walp., Ligusticum antipodum (Hook.f.) Homb. et Jacquinot ex Decne

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

October - March.

FRUITING

March - May.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Winged mericarps are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed but fickle in cultivation. Dislikes humidity, warm climates and prone to sudden collapse even when apparently flourishing.

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ETYMOLOGY

anisotome: Unequal sided

antipoda: Named after the Antipodes i.e. Australia or New Zealand which are on the opposite side of the world from Europe

NVS CODE

ANIANT

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL

2004 | Range Restricted

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anisotome-antipoda/>

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