

Brachyglottis arborescens

COMMON NAME

Three Kings rangiora

SYNONYMS

Brachyglottis repanda var. *arborescens* (W.R.B.Oliv.) Allan

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Brachyglottis arborescens W.R.B.Oliv.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BRAARB

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 60

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD, IE

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD, IE

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: IE

2004 | Range Restricted

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Canopy tree of the Three Kings Islands. Bark stringy. Leaves curled, large, dark glossy green and white underneath. Flowers in clusters of small white flowers. Seeds small, with a tuft of white hairs.

DISTRIBUTION

Three Kings Islands (present on all the main islands and also Hinemoa Rock within the Princes chain of islets and rock stacks.

HABITAT

Meryta sinclairii forest and in coastal scrub. Sometimes found as an understory shrub within the dense kanuka (*Kunzea* aff. *ericoides*) forest which dominates Great (Manawa Tawhi) Island.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub- small tree up to 8 m high. Trunk up to 30 cm or more diameter at base; bark thick, in corky ridges; leaves very glossy, bullate, obovate in outline, very shallowly lobed to sinuate. Inflorescence; capitula small, panicle sparingly branched. Flowers lack ray florets, approximately 5 mm diameter, disc florets perfect, tubular-campanulate, dark greenish-yellow to sulphur yellow. Achene pappus-hairs longer than 3 mm, distinctly barbellate.



West Island, December 1996. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Near Trig, Great Island. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.

FLOWERING

November-February

FRUITING

January-March

LIFE CYCLE

Pappate achenes are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and cuttings. However, difficult to maintain as it is extremely susceptible to phytophthora and verticillium wilt.

ETYMOLOGY

brachyglottis: Name comes from the Greek words brachus meaning “short” and glottis meaning “the vocal apparatus of the larynx”

arborescens: Becoming a tree

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from specialist native plant nurseries.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

The large-leaved forms of North Auckland, Mayor and other coastal islands need further study.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted by M. Ward from Allan (1961) and Dawson *et al.* (2011).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. 1. Wellington: Government Printer. pg. 757-758.

Dawson, J., Lucas, R., Connor, J., & Brownsey, P. J. 2011. New Zealand's Native Trees. Nelson: Craig Potton. pg. 160.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/brachyglottis-arborescens/>