

Coprosma parviflora

COMMON NAMES

leafy coprosma

FAMILY

Rubiaceae

AUTHORITY

Coprosma parviflora Hook.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

COPPAR

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 132

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Bushy shrub in Northland with flattened wide angled branches bearing abundant clusters of pairs of small oval leaves. Twigs fuzzy towards tip. Leaves with tiny hairs underneath (best detected using tongue), 7-12mm long. Fruit white, pink or dark violet.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Three Kings Islands, and the North Island from Te Pahi south to Auckland City (Remuera) but now extinct in the Auckland area. Still extant from the Kaipara Harbour north.

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to *Coprosma* species of New Zealand](#)

FLOWERING

August - September (- October)

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

FRUITING

March - April (- October)



Maunganui Bluff, September. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Maunganui Bluff, September. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy drupes are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

ETYMOLOGY

coprosma: From the Greek kopros 'dung' and osme 'smell', referring to the foul smell of the species, literally 'dung smell'

parviflora: From the Latin parvus 'small, puny' and flores 'flowers', meaning small-flowered.

CULTIVATION

Occasionally sold by retail plant and specialist native plant nurseries.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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* 11: 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/coprosma-parviflora/>

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