

Fuchsia excorticata

COMMON NAMES

kōtukutuku, tree fuchsia

FAMILY

Onagraceae

AUTHORITY

Fuchsia excorticata (J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.) L.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

FUCEXC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Spreading small tree with thin flaky orange bark and bearing thin pointed leaves that are white underneath. Leaves up to 10cm long by 1.5-3cm wide, margin with small teeth, deciduous in southern areas. Flower colourful, in clusters from trunk or branches. Fruit dark purple, blunt at tip and base.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

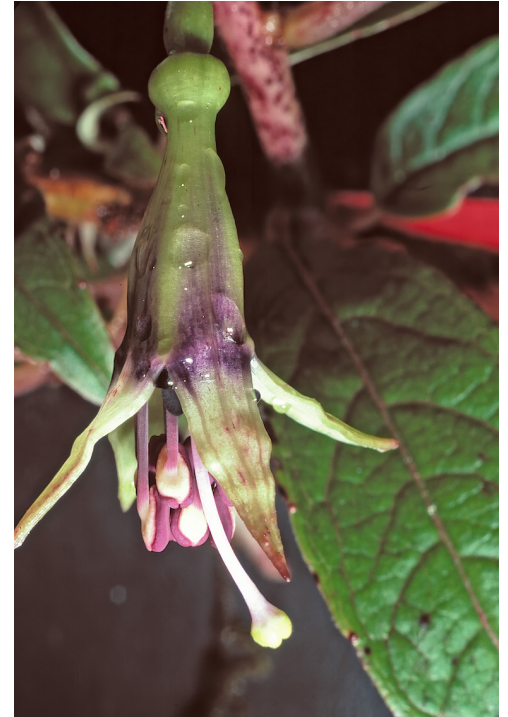
Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Violet/Purple

LIFE CYCLE

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



Franz Josef. December 1981. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.



Christchurch. October 1981. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.

ETYMOLOGY

fuchsia: After Leonhart Fuchs (17 Jan 1501 - 10 May 1566), a German physician and regarded as one of the three founding fathers of botany.

excorticata: Loose-barked

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This plant has been featured as a Plant of the Month – see [Trilepidea: NZPCN newsletter for August 2010](#) for the full story.

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/fuchsia-excorticata/>

PDF DATE

17 September 2024