

Ipomoea pes-caprae subsp. *brasiliensis*

COMMON NAME

beach morning glory

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

AUTHORITY

Ipomoea pes-caprae subsp. *brasiliensis* (L.) Ooststr.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 30

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, SO

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, SO

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: SO

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. Abundant throughout the Pacific Ocean and in parts of Central America. Reaching its world southern limit in New Zealand. In New Zealand it is common on some of the Kermadec Islands, and is otherwise known only from an extant population at Te Paki, and a recent historic one near Waipapakauri at the southern end of the Ninety-mile beach.

HABITAT

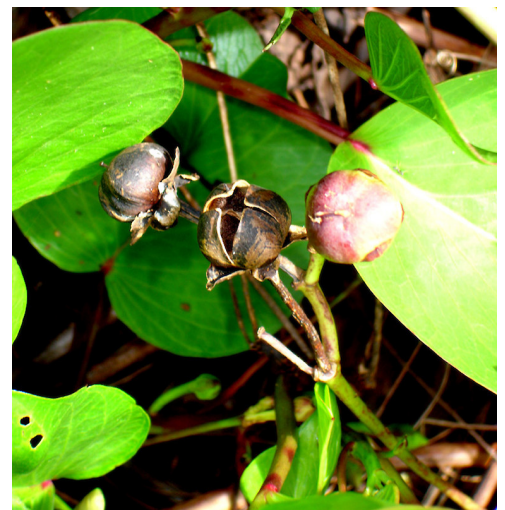
Usually a strict beach strand plant found along the high tide mark growing in driftwood or at the base of foredunes. On the Kermadecs it has also been recorded growing along the rim of active fumaroles (Sykes 1970).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout, tap-rooted, glabrous perennial scrambler. Stems numerous, prostrate, trailing up to 20 m long, rooting freely at nodes. Petiole stout, fleshy, erect, 110 mm or more long. Leaves 40-120(-170) x 35-120(-150) mm, broad-oblong to suborbicular, entire, thick, fleshy; base cuneate to truncate, apex emarginate or shallowly 2-lobed. Inflorescence 1-several-flowered; peduncles 30-150 mm long, stout, fleshy; pedicels 10-30 mm. Sepals 8-12 mm, unequal, ovate, obtuse. Corolla 30-50 x 40-55 mm, funnellform, pink with an irregular rose-band inside around the base of the limb. Stamens included. Capsule 20 mm diam., globose-ovoid. Seeds 2-4, tomentose, brown.



Ipomoea pes-caprae subsp. *brasiliensis*.
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Ipomoea pes-caprae subsp. *brasiliensis*.
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SIMILAR TAXA

None. Even when not in flower the large, dark green, fleshy, broad-oblong to suborbicular, entire, glossy leaves are unmistakable.

FLOWERING

October-April

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

FRUITING

October - August

LIFE CYCLE

Seeds are dispersed by wind and water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed but extremely cold sensitive. Even in mild climates, such as Kaitaia it has proved difficult to grow

THREATS

Not threatened, but outside the Kermadec Islands it is only known from one extant mainland site near Te Paki (Young 1998; de Lange 2012). Formerly it grew near Waipapakauri on the Ninety-Mile Beach but that site, which consisted of one plant was destroyed by forestry (Cooper 1967; de Lange 2012).

ETYMOLOGY

ipomoea: Worm-like, referring to coiled flower bud

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (18 January 2008). Description adapted from Green (1994)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Cooper, R.C. 1967: *Ipomoea pes-caprae* (Convolvulaceae) on Ninety Mile Beach, New Zealand. *Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum* 6: 171–174.
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- Sykes, W.R. 1970: *Ipomoea pes-caprae* (L.) R.Br. subsp. *brasiliensis* (L.) Oostrm. In the New Zealand Botanical Region. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 8: 249–253.
- 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
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NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ipomoea-pes-caprae-subsp-brasiliensis/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ipomoea-pes-caprae-subsp-brasiliensis/>