

# Anisotome latifolia

## SYNONYMS

*Ligusticum latifolium* (Hook.f.) Hook.f., *Calosciadium latifolium* (Hook.f.)  
Endl. ex Walp., *Aciphylla latifolia* (Hook.f.) Cockayne

## FAMILY

Apiaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Anisotome latifolia* Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

ANILAT

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Auckland Islands and Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku.

## HABITAT

Coastal to montane on peaty ground amongst boulders, tussocks and other megaherbs, more rarely under scrub and low forest. Most abundant at lower altitudes.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Robust perennial herb reaching up to 2 m tall. **Basal leaves** firmly coriaceous, ovate 0.3–0.6 × 0.1–0.2 dm; 2-pinnate, leaflets in 5–7 pairs, dark green to yellow-green, ovate to lanceolate, shortly petiolulate or sessile; leaflet margins cartilaginous, pinnatifid or deeply incised into broad toothed or incised segments; teeth acute, piliferous with hairs 2.0–3.5 mm long; petioles 0.15–0.3 m × 7.0–15.0 mm, subterete, with a central ridge on the somewhat flattened adaxial surface; sheaths 50–80 × 35–50 mm, prolonged at the apex into two broad lobes free from the petioles by 2–3 mm; cauline leaf sheaths markedly inflated; peduncles 20–150 mm long. **Inflorescence axis** up to 2 m × 10–15 mm diameter at first node. **Flowers** off white to pale creamy pink. **Staminate flowers** held within an involucre of linear to lanceolate bracts 5–15 × 1–2 mm; involucre of several linear to lanceolate bracteoles 3.0–7.0 × 0.5–1.5 mm; rays 20–40, 5–20 mm long; pedicels 20–40, 2–5 mm long. **Pistillate flowers** similar, involucre bracts linear to broadly lanceolate, 10–35 × 1–5 mm, involucre bracteoles linear to lanceolate 2.0–10.0 × 0.5–2.0 mm, rays 20–40, 10–35 mm long, pedicels 15–30, 1–5 mm long; styles slender, 1–2 mm long, divergent. **Mericaip** elliptic, elliptic-ovate, elliptic-oblong or narrowly elliptic, 3.5–5.5–7.0 mm long; apex usually slightly narrowed and obtuse, sometimes rounded, base obtuse to truncate; 2–5-ribbed; ribs usually even, sometimes irregular, equal thin, finely winged with a narrow hyaline margin; surface dull; ribs yellow, dark yellow or orange; vittae usually obscured in mature mericarps, if visible dark red-brown.



Sub Antarctic Islands. Photographer: Chris Rance, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Campbell Island. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Probably allied to *Anisotome acutifolia* Kirk, *A. antipoda* Hook.f. and *A. Iyallii* Hook.f., four species that can grow as tall as 2 m when flowering and are confined to the southern South Island and Stewart Island/Rakiura (*A. Iyallii*) or the Subantarctic Islands (*A. acutifolia*, *A. antipoda* and *A. latifolia*). *Anisotome latifolia* is sympatric on the Auckland Islands and Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku with *A. antipoda* from which it can be easily distinguished by its much more coarsely divided leaves, and off white to pale pink rather than dark pink to magenta flowers.

## FLOWERING

October–February

## FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

## FRUITING

January–March

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed. Easily grown in a deep, peaty, permanently damp soil. Resent hot, humid weather and prone to collapse under such conditions. A beautiful plant that deserves to be more widely cultivated than it currently is.

## THREATS

No apparent threats. Listed because it is naturally confined to a small geographic area. It is abundant on Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku and common on those islands of the Auckland group free of browsing animals.

## ETYMOLOGY

**anisotome:** Unequal sided

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2007. Description based on Dawson (1961).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Dawson JW. 1961. A revision of the genus *Anisotome* (Umbelliferae). *University of California Publications in Botany* 33: 1–98.

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>.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

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