

# Clematis paniculata

## COMMON NAME

white clematis, puawananga

## SYNONYMS

*Clematis integrifolia* G.Forst. non *C. integrifolia* L.; *Clematis indivisa* Willd.

## FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Clematis paniculata* J.F.Gmel.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

CLEPAN

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

$2n = 16$

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands. Naturalised on Chatham Island.

## HABITAT

Coastal to montane in shrubland or tall forest (up to 1000 m a.s.l.).

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

UPL: Obligate Upland

Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands (non-wetlands).



Ohau Valley, Tararua Forest Park.

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Butterfly Creek, Eastbourne. Photographer:

Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 15/09/1984,

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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Robust high-climbing evergreen woody vine. Main stems woody up to 200 mm diameter at base, branching in upper ½ or less, bark grey-brown, furrowed, branchlets stout, pliant, glabrescent. Leaves dark and glabrous above, pale green and sparsely covered in white hairs beneath, 3-foliolate, (50-)-70-130-(10) × 60-120(-190) mm; leaflets coriaceous, broadly ovate to broad-oblong, cordate to truncate at base; margin entire to crenately toothed or lobed near apex, rarely deeply lobed to almost dissected; petiole (20-)-30-60(-70) mm long. Flowers unisexual, in compound axillary dichasial cymes. Bracts paired; lower pair often leaf-like, united, usually inserted below middle of pedicel. Male flowers: sepals 6, imbricate, white, glabrous above, hairy beneath, spatulate to obovate or oblong, 25-35(-60) × 8-15-(24) mm; stamens numerous; anthers 1.5-2.0(-2.5) mm long; filaments sparsely hairy or glabrous. Female flowers: sepals 6, similar to male, (16)-20-25-(40) × 7-10(-13) mm; staminodes few. Achenes hairy, 2-4 mm long. Style (2.5)-3.5-6.5 cm long at fruiting, plumose. Fruits not persistent.

## SIMILAR TAXA

None - the usually entire, dark green, leathery leaves, and big white flowers serve to distinguish it from all indigenous, naturalised and exotic species in New Zealand, except *C. armandii* which differs from *C. paniculata* by its much larger leaves with lanceolate lobed leaflets and smaller white flowers.

## FLOWERING

July - November

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

October - January

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from seed. Can be grown by cuttings but these can be fickle and slow to strike. Prefers to be planted a permanently damp but not sopping soil, in a situation where it can grow up into the sun. Its root stock should never be allowed to dry out. In humid climates prone to powdery mildew.

## ETYMOLOGY

**clematis**: From the Greek klema 'vine', alluding to the vine-like habit of many species

**paniculata**: Small sprayed

## ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Webb et al. (1988)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Esler, A.E. 1969. Leaves of *Clematis paniculata*. Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin, 36: 40

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

Webb et al. (1988), Flora of New Zealand Vol. IV. DSIR Botany Division, Lincoln.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-paniculata/>