

Melicytus lanceolatus

COMMON NAME

māhoe-wao, narrow-leaved māhoe

SYNONYMS

Melicytus lanceolatus Hook.f. var. *lanceolatus*, *Melicytus lanceolatus* var. *latior* G.Simpson et J.S.Thomson

FAMILY

Violaceae

AUTHORITY

Melicytus lanceolatus Hook.f.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

MELLAN

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 32

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Small bushy tree bearing many down-curving narrow tough leaves inhabiting higher rainfall areas. Leaves 5-16cm long by 0.5-2cm wide, on a short stem. Flowers are small with yellow or dark purple petals and scattered in groups along the twig. Fruit purple.

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple

ETYMOLOGY

melicytus: From the Greek meli (honey) and kytos (hollow container), referring to the staminal nectaries of the flowers. Literally “honey-cave”

lanceolatus: Shaped like a small lance head

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/melicytus-lanceolatus/>



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