

# Metrosideros diffusa

## COMMON NAME

white rātā

## SYNONYMS

Melaleuca diffusa G.Forst., Metrosideros hypericifolia A.Cunn.

## FAMILY

Myrtaceae

## AUTHORITY

Metrosideros diffusa (G.Forst.) Sm.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

METDIF

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, De

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island, South Island, Stewart Island/Rakiura.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

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

## MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to the Myrtaceae of New Zealand](#)

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## THREATS

Myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) is an invasive fungus that threatens native myrtle species. Learn more [myrtlerust.org.nz](http://myrtlerust.org.nz).



Okarito River. Dec 1982. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 16/12/1982, Licence: CC BY.



Blue duck S.R. Photographer: Gillian M. Crowcroft, Licence: All rights reserved.

## ETYMOLOGY

**metrosideros:** Iron heart

**diffusa:** Of spreading growth

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/metrosideros-diffusa/>