

Wanganui Plant List No. 49

Vegetation And Flora Of Foxton No. 1 Lake (Omanu), Foxton

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(Last revised 27 October 1992)

Vegetation:

Both Foxton No. 1 Lake and its adjoining unnamed pond are largely surrounded by grazed pasture on consolidated sand dunes. Small portions of these dunes have been fenced out for perhaps some years, but the vegetation of such areas is still mostly rank exotic grass species. Only close to the lake do indigenous species occur, such as beds of Carex sp. (C. geminata agg.), Schoenoplectus validus and raupo. Where the edge of the lake is grazed, beds of raupo with some Schoenoplectus occur in water beyond the reach of livestock. Swampy pasture occurs where shallow water extends in arms of the eastern side of the lake, and this contains a mixture of adventive and indigenous wetland herbaceous plants. On sandy substrates in permanent water, the dominant plant is Zannichellia palustris, a fine-leaved, distant relative of eel-grass (Zostera spp.). The other frequent native aquatic species here is Potamogeton pectinatus. Adventive, submerged, aquatic plants are not abundant; P. crispus is the most common, with local patches of Elodea and hornwort (Ceratophyllum).

Trees and shrubs around the lake are very sparse, and apart from a few cabbage trees, are all adventive species: tree lupin, gorse and boxthorn on dry areas, crack willow around the lake and pond edges.

Main plant communities:

Raupo/open water: reedland.

Raupo - Carex secta/ open water (with odd clumps of Carex maorica, Eleocharis acuta): reed-sedgeland.

Water/Zannichellia - Potamogeton pectinatus - P. crispus: submerged herbfield.

Azolla - Lemna/water: floating herbfield.

Juncus articulatus - Veronica anagallis-aquatica - Isolepis prolifer: mixed herbfield.

Carex geminata: sedgeland.

Ryegrass - clover - Vulpia - mallow: grassland on dunes.

Lupin - boxthorn: shrubland on dunes.

No rare or threatened plant species were found and the native plant communities are representative of those found in similar wetlands throughout coastal Manawatu. The Zannichellia - Potamogeton pectinatus beds are more dense and extensive than those I have seen elsewhere, and appear to be a particularly good example of this type of submerged vegetation. Whether the adventive submerged aquatic species present will alter this native community in the future is unknown.

LIST OF VASCULAR PLANTS AT FOXTON LAKE NO. 1

(OMANU)¹ AND ADJOINING POND², FOXTON, MANAWATU

1. NZMS 260/Sheet S24/010816
2. NZMS 260/Sheet S24/007813

List of compiled 16 December 1987 during a three-hour walk around both lakes. The survey attempted to record all species in water or wet ground; dryland species were not searched for actively, but were recorded when encountered.

Abbreviations:

- (u) = uncommon : only one or a very few plants seen or one small patch.
* = adventive species (not native to this area).
+ = seen on dry ground only.

Dicot trees, shrubs and lianes

	<u>Calystegia sepium</u> agg.	convolvulus	u
* +	<u>Lupinus arboreus</u>	tree lupin	
* +	<u>Lycium ferocissimum</u>	boxthorn	
*	<u>Salix fragilis</u>	crack willow	
*	<u>Ulex europaeus</u>	gorse	u

Docot herbs

* +	<u>Amaranthus</u> sp.	redroot	
* +	<u>Anagallis arvensis</u>	scarlet pimpernel	u
*	<u>Callitriche stagnalis</u>	starwort	u
*	<u>Ceratophyllum demersum</u>	hornwort	
* +	<u>Cirsium vulgare</u>	Scotch thistle	
* +	<u>Conyza</u> sp.		
	<u>Cotula coronopifolia</u>	batchelor's button	u
*	<u>Crepis capillaris</u>	hawksbeard	
*	<u>Galium palustre</u>	marsh bedstraw	
* +	<u>Leontodon taraxacoides</u>	hawkbit	
* +	<u>Lepidium bonariense</u>	Argentine cress	
*	<u>Lythrum hyssopifolia</u>	hyssop loosestrife	
* +	<u>Malva sylvatica</u>	mallow	
*	<u>Myosotis laxa</u> var. <u>caespitosa</u>	water forgetmenot	
	<u>Myriophyllum propinquum</u>	water milfoil	
*	<u>Nasturtium</u> sp.	watercress	
*	<u>Parentucellia viscosa</u>	tarweed	
*	<u>Plantago major</u> ¹	broad-leaved plantain	
	<u>Polygonum salicifolium</u>	NZ willow weed	
*	<u>Prunella vulgaris</u>	selfhead	u
*	<u>Ranunculus repens</u>	creeping buttercup	
*	<u>R. sceleratus</u>	celery-leaved buttercup	u
*	<u>Rumex crispus</u>	curled dock	
* +	<u>Sonchus asper</u>	prickly sowthistle	u
* +	<u>S. oleraceus</u>	puwha	u

¹ Possible error for P. australis?

*	<u>Trifolium arvense</u>	hare's foot trefoil	
*	<u>T. fragiferum</u>	strawberry clover	
*	<u>T. repens</u>	white clover	
*	<u>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</u>	water speedwell	

MONOCOTS

Sedges

	<u>Carex maorica</u>		
	<u>C. secta</u> s.s		
	<u>C. sp.</u> [unnamed; <u>C. geminata</u> agg. - "giant" species]	cutty grass	u
	<u>Cyperus ustulatus</u>		
	<u>Eleocharis acuta</u>	spike edge	
	<u>Isolepis (Scirpus) prolifer</u>		
	<u>Schoenoplectus pungens</u>	3-square	
	<u>S. validus</u>		
	<u>Schoenus maschalinus</u>		u

Grasses

*	+	<u>Agrostis capillaris</u>	browntop	
*		<u>A. stolonifera</u>	creeping bent	
*		<u>Alopecurus geniculatus</u>	kneed foxtail	u
*	+	<u>Anthoxanthum odoratum</u>	sweet vernal	u
*		<u>Cynosurus cristatus</u>	crested dogstail	u
*		<u>Festuca arundinacea</u>	tall fescue	
*		<u>Holcus lanatus</u>	Yorkshire fog	
*		<u>Lolium perenne</u>	perennial ryegrass	

Rushes

*		<u>Juncus articulatus</u>	jointed-leaved rush	
*		<u>J. bufonius</u>	toad rush	
*		<u>J. effusus</u>		u
		<u>J. gregiflorus</u>		u
		<u>J. pallidus</u>		u

Monocots other than sedges, grasses, and rushes

*		<u>Alisma plantago-aquatica</u>	water plantain	u
		<u>Cordyline australis</u>	cabbage tree	
*		<u>Elodea canadensis</u>	Canadian pondweed	
		<u>Lemna sp.</u> [L. minor of NZ authors]	duckweed	
*		<u>Potamogeton crispus</u>	curled pondweed	
		<u>P. pectinatus</u>		
		<u>Typha orientalis</u>	raupo	
		<u>Wolffia australiana</u>	water meal	
		<u>Zannichellia palustris</u>		