

Wanganui Plant List No.83

Vascular plants and vegetation of dune lake and swampy dune hollows, "Tunnel Hill", near Koitiata, Turakina

Grid ref NZMS 260, Sheet 23/232974; alt. 40m a.s.l., (Redmayne's property)

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With assistance of members of Wanganui Botanical Group

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(Last amended 5 February 1998)

* denotes adventive species

Abundance

a = abundant

c = common

o = occasional

u = uncommon

l = local (common in restricted areas)

Dicot trees and shrubs

Coprosma propinqua		o
C. robusta	karamu	c
C. tenuicaulis	swamp coprosma	c
C. propinqua x C. robusta		o
Leptospermum scoparium	manuka	l
Melicytus ramiflorus	mahoe	u
Olearia virgata		o
* Salix cinerea	grey willow	c-la
* S. fragilis	crack willow	u
* Ulex europaeus	gorse	c-la

Monocot tree

Cordyline australis	cabbage tree, ti kouka	o
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Dicot lianes

Calystegia sepium [pink flowers]	convolvulus	lc
Muehlenbeckia complexa	small-leaved pohuehue	o
* Rubus fruticosus	blackberry	o

Dicot herbs

* <i>Bidens frondosa</i>	beggar's ticks	o
* <i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	starwort	lc
<i>Centella uniflora</i>		u
* <i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	mouse-ear chickweed	u
* <i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Californian thistle	u
* <i>C. vulgare</i>	scotch thistle	u
* <i>Conyza albida</i>	fleabane	o
* <i>Cotula coronopifolia</i>	batchelor's button	lc
* <i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	willowherb	u
<i>E. insulare</i>	willowherb	u
<i>E. pallidiflorum</i>	willowherb	u
* <i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	u
* <i>G. palustre</i>	marsh bedstraw	la
<i>Gnaphalium involucratum</i>	cudweed	c
<i>Gratiola sexdentata</i>		u
<i>Hydrocotyle moschata</i>	hairy pennywort	u
<i>H. novaezeelandiae</i>		c
<i>H. pterocarpa</i>		o
<i>H. sulcata</i>		u
<i>Hypericum japonicum</i>		lc
* <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	catsear	c
<i>Lilaeopsis sp.</i>	tape measure plant	lc
<i>Lobelia aniceps</i>		o
<i>Mazus novaezeelandiae</i>	dwarf mazus	lc
* <i>Mentha pulegium</i>	pennyroyal	lc
* <i>Myosotis laxa</i>	water forget-me-not	o
<i>Myriophyllum propinquum</i>	water milfoil	lc
* <i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	tarweed	o
* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	inkweed	u
* <i>Polygonum hydropiper</i>	water pepper	c
<i>P. salicifolium</i>	willow-weed	u
<i>Pratia perpusilla</i>		u
* <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	self-heal	u
<i>Ranunculus glabrifolius</i>	waoriki	u
* <i>R. repens</i>	creeping buttercup	o
* <i>R. sceleratus</i>	celery-leaved buttercup	c
* <i>Rorippa sp.</i>	watercress	u
* <i>Rumex acetosella</i>	sheep sorrel	o
* <i>R. crispus</i>	curled dock	o
* <i>Sagina procumbens</i>	pearlwort	o
* <i>Senecio bipinnatisectus</i>	fireweed	u
* <i>S. glastifolius</i>	holly-leaved senecio	u
<i>S. glomeratus (?)</i>		u
<i>S. minimus</i>	fireweed	u
* <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	puwha, sow-thistle	u
* <i>Stellaria alsine</i>	bog stitchwort	lc
* <i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	strawberry clover	o
* <i>T. repens</i>	white clover	c
<i>Urtica linearifolia</i>	swamp nettle	u
* <i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	turf speedwell	u

Monocot herbs

Sedges

Baumea rubiginosa		c
Carex lessoniana		c
C. maorica		c
C. secta var. secta		a
C. virgata		c
* Cyperus eragrostis		lc
C. ustulatus		o
Eleocharis acuta	spike sedge	c
E. gracilis	slender spike sedge	c
Schoenoplectus validus	kapungawha	lc
Schoenus maschalinus		u

Grasses

* Agrostis stolonifera	creeping bent	la
* Anthoxanthum odoratum	sweet vernal	c
Cortaderia toetoe	toetoe	o
* Festuca arundinacea	tall fescue	lc
* Glyceria declinata	floating sweetgrass	la
* Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire fog	c
Isachne globosa	swamp millet	a
* Lolium perenne	perennial ryegrass	o
Microlaena stipoides	meadow rice-grass	u
* Paspalum distichum	Mercer grass	la

Rushes

* Juncus articulatus	jointed-leaved rush	o
J. distegus		lc
* J. effusus	soft rush	c
J. gregiflorus		o
J. planifolius		o
J. sarophorus		o
* J. tenuis		lc

Orchids

Microtis unifolia	onion-leaved orchid	u
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Monocots other than sedges, grasses, rushes and orchids

<i>Astelia fragrans</i>		lc
<i>Lemna</i> sp [L. minor of NZ authors]	duckweed	lc
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	harakeke, NZ flax	a
<i>Potamogeton cheesemanii</i>	pondweed	u
* <i>P. crispus</i>	curled pondweed	la
* <i>Sisyrinchium 'blue'</i>		o
<i>Sparganium subglobosum</i>	burr-reed	u
* <i>Spirodela punctata</i>	purple-backed duckweed	lc
<i>Typha orientalis</i>	raupo	c
<i>Wolffia australiana</i>	water meal	lc

Ferns

<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>	maidenhair fern	u
<i>Asplenium gracillimum</i>		u
<i>A. flaccidum</i>	hanging spleenwort	u
<i>A. oblongifolium</i>	shining spleenwort	u
<i>A. polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort	u
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i> ssp. <i>rubra</i>	floating waterfern	lc
<i>Blechnum minus</i>	swamp kiokio	a
<i>B. penna-marina</i> (?)		u
<i>B. sp.</i> (unnamed; common lowland sp.)	kiokio	o
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	mamaku	o
<i>Dicksonia fibrosa</i>	wheki-ponga	u
<i>D. squarrosa</i>	wheki	o
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	water fern, mata	o
<i>Hypolepis ambigua</i>		o
<i>H. distans</i>		o
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	ring fern	o
<i>Phymatosorus pustulatus</i>	hound's tongue	u
<i>Polystichum richardii</i>		u
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken	o

Total of indigenous species of wetland = 71
 Total of adventive species of wetland = 49

Vegetation

Dune lake mainly infilled with swamp vegetation. Mostly flax/Carexsecta, with occasional Coprosma tenuicaulis, C.propinqua, Olearia virgata; scattered cabbage trees and toetoe. Some parts heavily infested with grey willow. Edges dominated by Carex secta, C.lessoniana, Baumea rubiginosa, swamp millet, and short "turfs" of Eleocharis acuta, E. gracilis, Yorkshire fog; locally common gorse. Small areas of closely-grazed pasture in damp hollows (ephemeral wetlands) have dwarf mazus, Lilaeopsis, Pratia perpusilla, Schoenus maschalinus, Hypericum japonicum.

Nationally threatened species are dwarf mazus (Mazus novaezeelandiae - status vulnerable). This is one of only two known sites for Pratia perpusilla in Wanganui Conservancy of DoC, The other being Lake Alice. It was recorded somewhere between the Turakina and Rangitikei Rivers by B C Aston in 1910, and the very few records for the Manawatu and Horowhenua regions were summarised by Esler (1978) and Duguid (1990), respectively.

Other regionally uncommon plants are swamp millet (possibly the largest population south of Taranaki), Hydrocotyle sulcata, Gratiola sexdentata, Sparganium subglobosum, Hypolepis distans.

References:

- Aston, B C. 1910 Trans. N.Z. Inst. 43:225-247
Duguid, F C 1990 NZ J Bot. 28:423
Esler, A E 1978 Botany of the Manawatu :125