

Orchids on  
albase ✓

On hillside

**NGA RATA Q.E.2 COVENANT NO. 310 (ROAD BUSH) ON NGA RATA ROAD (280 - 360m  
a.s.l.)**

**NZMS 260 T25 610510** <sup>EW</sup>  
Indigenous Vascular Plants

Pat Enright, Olaf John, Aalbert Rebergen, Tony Silbery 13/9//98

Pat Enright, Olaf John 26/9/98

unc = uncommon

**Site description:**

This is a bush block of 21.0ha beside the Nga Rata Road on Nga Rata Station, Northern Wairarapa and owned by R.Mc., H., and A.E. Falloon. It is the second largest of 11 Q.E. II covenants on this station. It comprises a streambed, some alluvial flats and moderate to steep slopes rising to about 300m a.s.l. above the stream.

The hill slopes are mainly dry forest with a SW aspect dominated by tawa higher up with podocarps thinly spread on the lower slopes and in the stream gully. Several seepage and water courses descend the slopes and provide a much wetter habitat for the likes of *Dicksonia squarrosa*, *Microlaena avenacea*, *Carex dissita*, *Plantago raoulii*, *Myosotis forsteri* and *Australina pusilla* hence their relative rarity in the area. The hilltop is very exposed and the vegetation reflects this low tight bushes of *Lophomyrtus obcordata* and small leaved *Coprosma* species have some emergent but stunted *Totara* and *Pennantia corymbosa* with most if not all of the foliage growing on the lee side of the tree. This tight fringeing growth and the low canopy together with some dense *Ripogon* growth makes penetration of this area difficult. Manuka with a grouping of *Olearia virgata* cloaks the ?? slope with quite a lot of *Corybas trilobus* and some *Pterostylis banksii* underneath.

The streambed and the small amount of alluvial flats also have some interesting flora with *D. fibrosa*, *Cyathea smithii* and *Schizeilema trifoliolatum* being found there.

There are also small areas of swamp (*Carex geminata*) and dry sunny manuka mounds with *Drosera auriculata*, *Thelymitra* species, *Microtis unifolia* and *Leucopogon fraseri* present.

A large Northern rata was noted midslope and looked to be in very good condition and this together with the presence of *Fuchsia* and a good regeneration of seedlings points to a low possum population. Evidence of browsing and fresh deer, sheep and cattle sign was found. One sheep was seen along with a hare and a hedgehog.

This survey was thorough in the area covered but subsequent visits are required to cover the orchid season (summer and autumn) and the seed season for grasses and sedges.

There is a very large *Berberis darwinii* (Darwins barberry, at present in full flower, growing in a bit of a clearing on the house side of the bush but there does not seem to be any seedling growth.

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides	Kahikatea
Dacrydium cupressinum	Rimu
Podocarpus totara	Totara
Prumnopitys ferruginea (unc)	Miro
Prumnopitys taxifolia	Matai

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus (unc)	Titoki
Aristotelia serrata	Wineberry, makomako
Beilschmiedia tawa	Tawa
Brachyglottis repanda	Rangiora
Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweta, marbleleaf
Coprosma areolata	
Coprosma grandifolia (unc)	Raurekau
Coprosma lucida (unc)	Karamu
Coprosma propinqua	
Coprosma rhamnoides	
Coprosma rigida	
Coprosma robusta	Karamu
Coprosma rotundifolia	
Coprosma propinqua x C. robusta	
Elaeocarpus dentatus (unc)	Hinau
Fuchsia excorticata (unc)	Fuchsia, kotukutuku
Gaultheria antipoda	
Geniostoma rupestre	Hangehange
Griselinia lucida	Puka
Hebe stricta var. atkinsonii	Koromiko
Hedycarya arborea	Pigeonwood
Hoheria sexstylosa	
Knightia excelsa	Rewarewa
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka
Leucopogon fasciculatus (small leaved) (unc)	
Leucopogon fraseri	
Lophomyrtus bullata (unc)	Ramarama
Lophomyrtus obcordata	
Lophomyrtus bullata x L. obcordata	
Macropiper excelsum (unc)	Kawakawa
Melicope simplex	
Melicytus ramiflorus	Mahoe
Metrosideros robusta (unc)	Northern rata

Myrsine australis  
Neomyrtus pedunculata  
Nestegis cunninghamii  
Nestegis lanceolata  
Nestegis montana  
Olearia rani  
Olearia solandri (unc)  
Olearia virgata  
Pennantia corymbosa  
Pittosporum eugenioides  
Pittosporum tenuifolium  
Plagianthus regius  
Raukuaa anomalus  
Pseudopanax arboreus (unc)  
Pseudopanax crassifolius  
Schefflera digitata  
Solanum aviculare (unc)  
Sophora microphylla (unc)  
Streblus heterophylla  
Urtica ferox (unc)  
Weinmannia racemosa

Red Matipo  
Black Maire  
White maire  
Narrow leaved maire  
Heketaro

Kaikomako  
Tarata, lemonwood  
Kohuhu  
Ribbonwood  
Whauwhaupaku  
Puahou, Five finger  
Horoeka, lancewood  
Pate  
Poroporo  
Kowhai  
Turepo, milk tree  
Tree nettle, ongaonga  
Kamahi

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis  
Cordyline banksii (unc)

cabbage tree

Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens

Supplejack

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis foetida  
Clematis paniculata  
Metrosideros colensoi  
Metrosideros diffusa  
Muehlenbeckia australis  
Parsonsia capsularis  
Parsonsia heterophylla  
Rubus australis (unc)  
Rubus cissoides  
Rubus schmidelioides  
Tetrapathea tetrandra

Puawananga

Pohuehue

Akakiore

Passion vine

Psilopods, Lycopods and Quillworts

Lycopodium varium

Ferns

<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>		Maidenhair fern
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>		Manamana, Hen and Chicken fern
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i> ss		Makawe, Hanging spleenwort
<i>Asplenium hookerianum</i>		
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>		Huruhuruwhenua, Shining spleenwort
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>		Petako, Sickle spleenwort
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i> x <i>A. flaccidum</i>		
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i> x <i>A. hookerianum</i>		
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>		Nini
<i>Blechnum discolor</i>		
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>		Paanako
<i>Blechnum fluviatile</i>		Kiwakiwa
<i>Blechnum membranaceum</i>		
<i>Blechnum novaezelandiae</i>	(pp <i>B. capense</i> )	Kiokio
<i>Blechnum pennamarina</i>		
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>		Ponga, Silver fern
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>		Mamaku
<i>Cyathea smithii</i> (unc)		
<i>Dicksonia fibrosa</i>		
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>		Wheki
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i> (unc)		Maataa, Water fern
<i>Hymenophyllum demissum</i>		
<i>Hymenophyllum multifidum</i> (unc)		
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>		
<i>Hypolepis ambigua</i>		
<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>		
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>		
<i>Lastreopsis velutina</i>		
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>		Heruheru, Single crepe fern
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>		
<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>		Tarawera
<i>Phymatosorus pustulatus</i>	( <i>P. diversifolium</i> )	
<i>Phymatosorus scandens</i> (unc)		Moki
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>		
<i>Polystichum richardii</i>		Pikopiko
<i>Polystichum silvaticum</i>		
<i>Polystichum vestitum</i> (unc)		
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>		Bracken, rauaruhe
<i>Pteris macilenta</i>		
<i>Pteris tremula</i>		
<i>Pyrrosia eleagnifolia</i>		Ota, Leather-leaf fern
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i> (unc)		

#### Orchids

<i>Corybas trilobus</i> ✓		
<i>Earina autumnalis</i> ✓		Raupeka
<i>Earina mucronata</i> ✓		Pekaawaka
<i>Microtis unifolia</i> ✓		

Pterostylis banksii ✓  
Thelymitra longifolia ✓  
Winika cunninghamii (unc) ✓

Tutukiwi

Grasses

Cortaderia fulvida  
Deyeuxian avenoides  
Microlaena avenacea  
Poa anceps  
Rytidosperma gracile

Paatiitii, Bush rice grass

Sedges

Carex dissita (unc)  
Carex flagellifera (unc)  
Carex geminata ss  
Carex forsteri  
Carex virgata  
Isolepis reticularis  
Uncinia scabra  
Uncinia uncinata

Watu, Hook grass

Rushes and allied plants

Juncus gregiflorus (J. polyanthemus)  
Juncus sarophorus  
Luzula banksiana

Wiwi

Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

Arthropodium candidum  
Astelia fragrans (unc)  
Astelia solandri  
Collosperrum hastatum  
Collosperrum microspermum (unc)  
Libertia ixiooides (unc)

Kakaha

Mikoikoi

Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum agg.  
Senecio minimus (Erechtites minima)  
Senecio rufiglandulosos (unc)

Fireweed

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Acaena anserinifolia  
Australina pusilla (unc)  
Callitriche petriei  
Cardamine sp. (C. debilis agg.) ("glossy Leaf" of Pritchard 1957)

Bidibidi

Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Long Style" of Pritchard 1957 )  
Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Narrow Petal" of Pritchard 1957)  
Centella uniflora  
Dichondra brevifolia agg.  
Drosera auriculata  
Epilobium insulare  
Epilobium nummulariifolium  
Galium propinquum  
Geranium microphyllum  
Haloragis erecta (unc)  
Helichrysum filicaule  
Hydrocotyle elongata  
Hydrocotyle heteromeria  
Hydrocotyle moschata  
Myosotis forsteri (unc)  
Oxalis exilis Yellow oxalis  
Nertera setulosa  
Plantago raoulia var (unc)  
Ranunculus reflexus (pp R. hirtus) Maruru, hairy buttercup  
Schizeilema trifoliolatum (unc)  
Stellaria decipiens  
Urtica incisa

**Birds:**

Fantail  
Grey warbler  
Kingfisher  
Morepork  
Rifleman  
Wood Pigeon