

WANGANUI PLANT LIST 195: EGGERS BUSH AND OAPUI SANCTUARY, TARATA ROAD, WAITARA SURVEY DISTRICT

Partial plant list for Eggers bush and sketchy plant list for Oapui Sanctuary.

Compiled during quick visit on 29 March 2005 by

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Eggers Bush NZMS260 Q19 2632468E – 6229397N (sourced from DOC GIS)
Sec 2 Blk XVI Waitara SD, total block 129.5 ha, forested portion ???ha

Oapui Sanctuary NZMS260 Q19 2631638E – 6229248N (sourced from DOC GIS)
Sec 24 Blk XVI Waitara SD, total block 101.7, forested portion 1.3ha

We visited Eggers bush at the invitation of Mr Leon Eggers to assess its biological and possible historic values with a view to apply for funding from the Nature Heritage Fund. The forest has been fenced since (at least 1996), and does not show much impact from stock damage in the past. It has a diverse range of podocarps with the best example of podocarp regeneration I have seen in the Wanganui Conservancy thus far; rimu regeneration especially contains all age/size classes, and regeneration the other podocarps is also prominent.

The forest is situated in a meander of the Taramoukou Stream, half a kilometre upstream from the Oapui Sanctuary (which is also in a meander of the same stream). The altitudinal range is from about 100–200m asl. There are about 3 distinct areas of vegetation within this block (also refer to SSBI folder Q19/H060).

(1) On the flat river terrace *Dacrydium cupressinum* (rimu) and *Prumnopitys ferruginea* (miro) and *Dacrycarpus dacrydioides* (kahikatea) dominate the 30m canopy. The 1–5m understorey is mainly comprised of *Coprosma areolata*, *Melicytus ramiflorus* (mahoe), *Pennantia corymbosa* (kaikomako) and *Hedycarya arborea* (pigeonwood). Groundcover is predominantly the invasive weed *Selaginella kraussiana* (African club moss), with seedlings of various species in areas not too densely covered with club moss and occasional pockets of *Asplenium bulbiferum subsp. gracillium* (hen and chicken fern) and *Uncinia uncinata* (hookgrass).

(2) There is a main 'ridge' that rises from the terrace which has a more dense population of kahikatea on the lower part and relatively young (100–200yr) rimu and matai along the upper parts with occasional large *Knightia excelsa* (rewarewa). At the top of the ridge there is evidence of terrace formation. On one side (SE) of the ridge the terrain slopes away steeply to the stream and on the other side there is a saddle of sorts with widely spaced but apparently even aged rimu and rewarewa. The apparently even age of these trees may indicate previous clearance of the ridge and the saddle area.

(3) The steep face of the slope was mainly covered in *Beilschmiedia tawa* (tawa), *Ripogonum scandens* (supplejack), *Cyathea dealbata* (silverfern) and other groundferns

Pinus radiata (pine) and *Acacia melanoxylon* (Tasmanian blackwood) has been planted in more or less a single line inside the top fence, between the forest boundary and the fence. *Rubus* sp. (*R. fruticosus* agg.) (blackberry), *Leycesteria Formosa* (Himalayan honeysuckle), and *Berberis glaucocarpa* (Barberry) also occur in this area. The African club moss is most dense along the stream and hardly occurs in the ridge area. *Arbutus unedo* (Strawberry tree) may be starting to invade the forest from the stream edge.

Oapui Sanctuary appeared to have similar vegetation, but the main canopy was 40m pole rimu, undergoing self–thinning. Not much time was spent noting plant species in this area.

A = abundant
C = common
O = Occasional
R = rare

P = Planted?
s = seedlings
(v) = voucher

Latin name	Maori/common name	Eggers Bush	Oapui Sanctuary
Gymnosperms			
<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	rimu	A ¹	A ²
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	kahikatea	O – C	O ³
<i>Phyllocladus trichomanoides</i>	celery pine		P (3)
<i>Podocarpus hallii</i>	Hall' stotara	? ⁴	
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	totara	O	
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	miro	C	
<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>	matai	O	
Dicot Trees & Shrubs			
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>	titoki		s
<i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>	karapapa	O	
<i>Alseuosmia quercifolia?</i>		O	
<i>Aristolelia serrata</i>	makomako	O s	
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	tawa	C	
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	rangiora	R	
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	putaputaweta	O s	
<i>Coprosma areolata</i>		A	
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	raurekau, kanono	O	C
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu	O	
<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	hinau	R	
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	tree fuchsia, kotukutuku	R	
<i>Geniostoma rupestre</i>	hangehange	O	
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko	R ⁵	
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood	A s	
<i>Hoheria populnea</i> var. (<i>H. sexstylosa</i>)	lacebark	O	
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	rewarewa	C ⁶	
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	manuka	R ⁷	
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi	R	

¹ All size classes represented from large mature, stands of poles to seedlings

² Mainly very tall and in the process of self–thinning. Many multi–leadered stems

³ Quite a few seedlings, some mature trees

⁴ Mr Eggers kept referring to the bastard, white wooded totara that were useless to cut even for firewood. *Podocarpus hallii* was commonly known as bastard totara.

⁵ One seen in grassy area near cattle race

⁶ Some extremely large specimen of rewarewa

⁷ Some along the top boundary

Latin name	Maori/common name	Eggers Bush	Oapui Sanctuary
Lophomyrtus bullata	ramarama	C	
Macropiper excelsum	kawakawa	R	
Melicytus lanceolatus	mahoe-wao	O	
M. ramiflorus	mahoe	A	
Myrsine australis	mapou	R s	
Nestegis lanceolata	white maire	O	
Pennantia corymbosa	kaikomako	C	
Pseudopanax arboreus	five-finger	R	
Pseudopanax crassifolius	lancewood, horoeka	O	
Rhabdothamnus solandri	taurepo	R	
Schefflera digitata	pate	O	
Streblus heterophyllus	taurepo, milk tree	R	
Weinmannia racemosa	kamahi	R	
Monocot trees & shrubs			
Rhopalostylis sapida	nikau	R s	
Dicot lianes			
Clematis foetida		O	
Clematis forsteri		?	
Metrosideros diffusa	white rata vine	O	
Metrosideros fulgens	scarlet rata vine	O	
Metrosideros perforata	white rata vine	O	
Muehlenbeckia australis	pohuehue	R	O
Parsonsia heterophylla	NZ jasmine	C	
Passiflora tetrandra	kohia, NZ passionfruit	O	
Rubus schmidelioides var. schmidelioides	lawyer	O	
Monocot Lianes			
Freycinetia banksii	kieke	R	
Ripogonum scandens	supplejack	C	
Dicot herbs			
Hydrocotyle novae-zeelandiae s.s. (v)		O	
Urtica incisa	nettle	C	
Monocot Herbs			
1. Orchids			
Drymoanthus adversus			O
Earina mucronata		O	

Latin name	Maori/common name	Eggers Bush	Oapui Sanctuary
Pterostylis sp.			
2. Grasses			
Microlaena avenacea	bush rice grass		
3. Sedges			
Carex geminata agg. (v)		O	
Carex solandri			
Gahnia sp (see photos)		O	
Uncinia sp	hooked sedge		
4. Rushes			
5. Monocot herbs other than orchids, grasses, sedges, rushes			
Astelia trinervia		C	
Astelia solandri			
Collospermum hastatum		O	
Collospermum microspermum		C	
Ferns			
Asplenium bulbiferum subsp gracillimum (v)	hen and chickens fern	C	
Asplenium flaccidum (v)	hanging spleenwort	C	
Asplenium oblongifolium	shining spleenwort	O	
Asplenium polyodon	sickle spleenwort	C	
Azolla filiculoides ssp. rubra		O	
Blechnum chambersii		O	
Blechnum colensoi		C	
Blechnum discolor	crown fern	O	
Blechnum filiforme	climbing blechnum	C	
Blechnum fluviatile		O	
Blechnum novae-zelandiae	kiokio	O	
Cyaatea dealbata	ponga	R	
Cyaatea smithii	katote, soft tree fern	O	
Dicksonia fibrosa	wheki-ponga	C	
Dicksonia squarrosa	wheki	C	
Deparia petersennii (v)		O	
Histiopteris incisa		O	
Hymenophyllum demissum (v)		O	
Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum (v)		C	
Leptopteris hymenophylloides		O	
Paesia scaberula	ring fern	C ⁸	

⁸ Along top boundary fence

Latin name	Maori/common name	Eggers Bush	Oapui Sanctuary
<i>Polystichum silvaticum</i> sp. (v)		C	
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken	O ⁹	
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>		C	
Fern Allies			
<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i> or <i>T. lanceolata</i>		R	
Exotic Species within natural areas			
Trees and shrubs			
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree	O ¹⁰	
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Tasmanian blackwood	P	
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Pine	P	
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	O	
<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	Himalayan honeysuckle	O ¹¹	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Blackberry	O ¹²	
<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>	Barberry	O ¹³	
<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	African club moss	A	Not seen

Number of native species noted in Eggers Bush = 82

Number of exotic species noted in Eggers Bush = 8

⁹ Around the margins of the forest between trees and boundary fence

¹⁰ A few small trees along the bottom stream, and larger fruiting trees lining the paddocks along the stream

¹¹ Around the margins of the forest in between trees and fence

¹² Around the margins of the forest in between trees and fence

¹³ Around the margins of the forest in between trees and fence

Comparison with other nearby forested and protected areas

DOC managed lands	km	direction	LENZ	Size (ha)	Description
Eggers Bush			F7.2a, F5.2a		
Oapui Sanctuary	0.6	west	F5.2a	1.29	Extremely tall (40m) forest, mainly rimu in the process of self thinning, on flat river terrace. Apparently 3 tanakaha (possibly planted). Understorey of <i>Coprosma grandifolia</i> , podocarp seedlings and occasional titoki seedlings.
Taramoukou Conservation Area	1.1	north	F7.2a, F1.1b	1637.56	Formed by a series of ridges up from the Onaero River. These ridges are broken with narrow tops, steep faces and numerous slips. The whole area has sandstone, papa subsoil. 70% sandstone. Wetlands in valley floors. Kohekohe on plateau (approx 150 acres) . 80% of area is tawa-tawhero with scattered rimu, miro, totara and kahikatea. Onaero valley 10% mahoe, kotukutuku, mako-mako, raniora. 10% ridge tops rata, stunted totara, hinau. Kohekohe on plateau most extensive in district. NI robin, fernbirds, kaka, kiwi
Oapui Road Conservation Area	1.4	west	F5.2a	0.29	Pasture
Pita Road No 1 & 2 Gravel Local Purpose Reserve	3.6	south	F7.2a	?	?
Autawa Road Conservation Area	4.2	south west	F1.1d, F1.1b	0.3	Pasture, scrub
Pita Road Conservation Area	4.3	south	F5.2a, F1.1b	0.32	Pasture
Motukawa Road Gravel Reserve	4.8	south west	F5.2a	?	?
Waitara River No 2 Marginal Strip	4.8	south west	F7.2a, F5.2a	?	?
Tuihu Conservation Area	5	south	F1.1b	254.95	Broken steep south facing, bordered by Waitara river. Mixed podocarp forest, specific species unknown. Possible kiwi others unknown.
Pouiatoa Conservation Area	5	east	F1.1d, F1.1b	3854.09	Very steep hill country draining into the Waitara or Urenui Rivers.

DOC managed lands	km	direction	LENZ	Size (ha)	Description
Pouiatoa Conservation Area (cont.)					The good representation of Urenui siltstone is covered by yellow silt loam up to 40cm deep. All side streams are steep and inaccessible. Unlogged tawa, kamahi with scattering of rimu, rata, rewarewa, miro, matai, kahikatea and totara. Black beech and hard beech. Excelent stand of kanuka at mouth of Mangapito stream. Kaka, falcon, kiwi, NI robin. Southern limits of <i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i> . Largest concentration of black beech in the district.
Tarata Conservation Area	5.6	south west	F7.2a, F1.1b	133.55	Primary and secondary forest in a variety of land forms. Rimu, tawa forest. Unusual occurrence of kohekohe distance from the coast (24km).
Autawa Conservation Area	6.3	south south east	F1.1d, F1.1b F7.2a	178.87	An area of southerly facing steep sided bush country, bordering the Waitara River in the south, dissected valley system. Podocarp forest, tawa, rest unknown. Possible kiwi habitat

Along Tarata road there is a section of C1.1a : Sec 7 Blk XVI Waitara SD with Manuka and or Kanuka

C1.1a	Mild to warmer temperatures, high solar radiation, slight annual water deficits, average elevation 370m asl, very gently undulating plains, very poorly drained peat soils of low fertility
F1.1b	Mild to warmer temperatures, high solar radiation, moderate vapour pressure deficits, slight annual water deficits, strongly rolling to steep hills, average elevation 325m asl. Well drained low fertility soils from mudstone and sandstone
F1.1d	Mild temperatures, high solar radiation, moderate vapour pressure deficits, slight annual water deficits, strongly rolling to steep hills, average elevation 325m asl. Well drained very low fertility soils from mudstone and sandstone
F5.2a	Warm temperatures, high solar radiation, moderate vapour pressure deficits, low to higher monthly water balance ratios, slight annual water deficits. Gently undulating ring plain, well drained soils, very high fertility from Taranaki andesitic tephra
F7.2a	Mild temperatures, high solar radiation, slight annual water deficits. Easy to strongly rolling volcanic plateau with well drained low to moderate fertility soils from rhyolitic and andesitic tephra some of which is water sorted.