

# Leaf Bingo

## Tōtara

*Podocarpus totara* and  
*Podocarpus cunninghamii*

- Tall tree of the forest, can live for over 1000 years
- Tōtara was known to Māori as "The noblest tree"
- Leaves are prickly to touch
- Seeds are stuck to outside of red fruits, which birds like kereru and bellbirds love to eat



## Kowhai (South Island Kowhai)

### *Sophora microphylla*

- A tree with small leaves, big bright yellow flowers, long brown pods filled with hard yellow seeds
- Often found along streamsides, the seed floats in rivers before landing and sprouting
- Leaves favoured food of kereru
- Bright yellow flowers are a nectar source for bellbirds and tui



## Mānuka (tea tree)

*Leptospermum scoparium*

- Small tree with sweet smelling leaves, white flowers, nut-like pods containing very small seeds
- Bees love the flowers
- Found in many different habitats including wetlands, river gravels and dry hillsides
- Mānuka honey can be beneficial to health



## Tarata (Lemonwood)

*Pittosporum eugenioides*

- Tree with large glossy green leaves
- Sweet scented yellow flowers in early spring
- Leaves smell of lemon when crushed
- Sticky seeds come in small pods

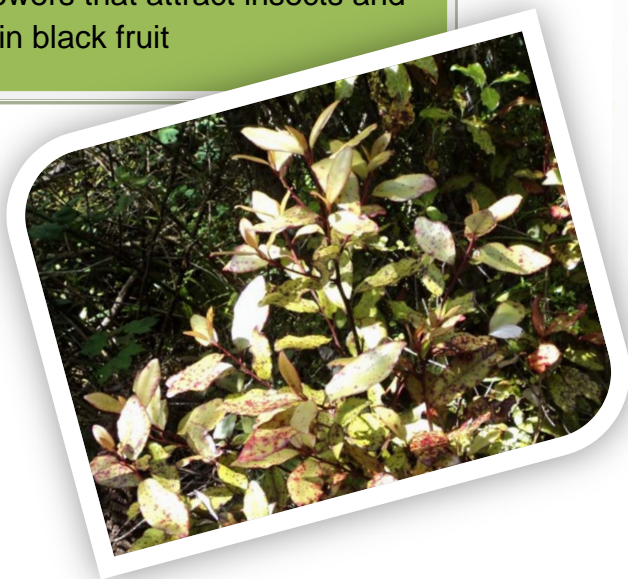




## Horopito (Pepperwood)

*Pseudowintera colorata*

- Small tree with dark stems
- Green, yellow and red blotched leaves
- Leaves have a very peppery taste
- Tiny flowers that attract insects and seeds in black fruit



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## Kahikatea (White Pine)

*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*

- The tallest tree in the New Zealand forest - can reach 50 metres tall
- Lives in swampy ground, loves wet feet!
- Small brown flattened leaves
- Red tasty fruit cover the tree and kereru, tui and bellbirds love to eat them



## **Makomako** (Wineberry)

*Aristotelia serrata*

- Fast growing small tree
- A 'colonising' tree
- Large leaves with 'teeth'
- Small pink flowers in spring
- Black fruit in autumn which the birds love to eat





## Koromiko (Willow-leaved hebe)

*Hebe salicifolia*

- Small shrub with spear shaped leaves
- Lots of tiny white flowers in summer, insect pollinated
- Great plant for the bees
- Tiny brown seeds fall from pods in autumn



## Kotukutuku (Tree fuchsia)

### *Fuchsia excorticata*

- Tree with papery bark and delicate leaves, likes a shady spot
- Flowers through spring, summer and autumn providing sweet nectar for bellbirds and tui
- Large black fruit popular with birds is filled with many tiny seeds



## Kapuka (Broadleaf)

### *Griselinia littoralis*

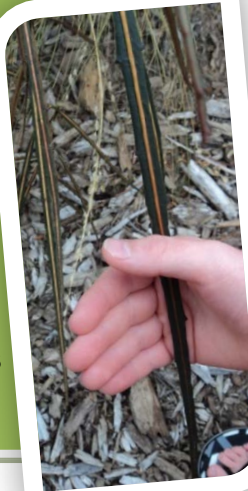
- A tree with large glossy leathery leaves
- Flowers are small and green attracting insects
- Dark fruit eaten by birds
- Deer, possums and insects love to eat the leaves



## Horoeka (Lancewood)

### *Pseudopanax crassifolius*

- The most unusual native plant with long downward pointing leaves
- Example of different juvenile and adult forms called “heteroblasty”
- The juvenile form - one theory suggests that it evolved as a response to moa browsing,
- Mature tree has more of a lollipop shape.
- The purplish-black fruits are an important food source for tūi and kererū when they occur in autumn and winter.
- The small, greenish-yellow flowers are pollinated by insects





## Pokaka

### *Eleocarpus hookerianus*

- A canopy forming tree
- Distinct juvenile form with twisted, interlacing branches
- Adult and juvenile trees have different shaped leaves, adult leaves are oblong
- Pokaka like wet ground and often grows with Kahikatea
- Little pale yellow flowers in spring turn into large purplish fruit
- Pokaka often sounds hollow when the trunk is knocked
- Pokaka is an example of both a divaricating tree and heteroblasty – changing its form from juvenile to adult tree



Juvenile leaves



Adult leaf



## Mingimingi

### *Coprosma propinqua*

- Small tree/shrub with tangly form
- An example of a divaricating plant – a type of plant that has evolved to protect itself from the browsing effects of moa
- Small birds like fantails nest in such shrubs, eat insects that live in the tangly bushes and lizards eat the fleshy fruits
- Also an example of a dioecious plant - male and female flowers on separate plants
- Flowers are not noticeable but fruits can be bright to light blue to white
- Only female plants have fruits
- Fruits are favourites of bellbirds and silvereyes

