

Māhoe

[*Melicytus ramiflorus*]



Māhoe is a great species to plant on a newly established site as it is tolerant of sun and exposed areas. Its common name 'Whitey Wood' is because of the lichens that grow over the smooth bark covering many if not almost all the tree trunk in white patches. When fruiting, it has dense clusters of bright to dark purple berries. The flowers grow directly out of the stem and are yellowish-white in colour with a strong, pleasant perfume.

Flowering is late spring through summer, the berries appearing in summer and autumn.

Size

Up to 10m tall

Distribution & Habitat

Found mostly in the understory of forests all around New Zealand. Fast growing tree that will establish well on a new site. Very hardy

Species it attracts

The small fruits will be eaten by Kererū and the nectar from the flowers will attract Tūi and other nectar feeding birds.

Medicinal Properties

Inner bark boiled down to treat burns

Where to plant in the garden

Māhoe grows up to 10m tall and 4 m wide so needs a bit of space. It grows well in full sun or partial shade and is tolerant of frost, dry periods and moderate wind. It is often grown in coastal areas and revegetation programmes.



Sponsored by

Mondelēz
International
SNACKING MADE RIGHT


Conservation
Volunteers New Zealand