

GuideLines

Number 357 - Thursday 4th April 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa

(Greetings, hello to you all)

Flora News By Warren Brewer

Flower buds and fruit for April.

Puahou (fivefinger) has flower buds developing. They are assembled in umbels. Puahou is winter flowering (early July). The trees have compound leaves formed from five to seven leaflets with stalks.

Houpara has new fruit ripening. It is a summer flowering tree. The leaflets forming puahou's compound leaves lack any stalks (sessile).

Houpara and puahou are in the *Pseudopanax* genus which belongs in the ivy family, Araliaceae.

Ivy has flowers opening in mid-April. The buds are also arranged in umbels.



Karo has large fruit capsules ripening. They split open to expose the black sticky seeds which are gathered by the birds.



