Coprosma acerosa

Coprosma acerosa is a more or less prostrate, spreading shrub with bronze coloured stems and small linear leaves opposite at each node. Each of the opposite outer leaves appear to have a pair of smaller leaves inside against the stem, suggesting there are rudimentary stems rather than the usual dormant axillary bud. Like other ground cover type coprosmas this species tends to grow over the top of itself with long trailing branches and can end up as either a mounded bun shape or as a spreading shrub with undulating heights. This plant also may layer itself as it goes, so eventually spread is limited only by other larger plants or lack of light.

This example is growing at the Amenity area. Translucent white-blue fleshy drupes (usually with dark bluish spots) are produced in autumn.

The overall appearance of the plant is a bronze – yellow colour, the tiny opposite leaves are greener.
Coprosma ‘Beatson’s Gold’

This is an evergreen shrub that is usually a tidy bun shaped shrub if it is given sufficient space to grow. It is best in full light, but away full sun. A south facing site or some light shade seems to suit this plant. There is an example of this cultivar in the New Zealand native collection at the Amenity area. I am unsure if there any other examples on campus currently. There were examples south of the Horticultural Teaching Lab. and possibly in other parts of the campus until relatively recently. *Coprosma* ‘Beatson’s Gold’ is of hybrid origin and Metcalf suggests *C. areolata* is likely to be one of its parents.

This is easy to grow from cuttings and this example is currently in need of rejuvenation. Leaves are simple, opposite, ovate to elliptic with a yellow centre around the mid rib and main veins of the leaves. The leaves above are from a shady part of the plant, leaves in the sun may assume a more bronzy yellow with less green obvious. Examples are likely to grow to about 1.5m in height and spread.
Coprosma ‘Black Cloud’

This is a small evergreen shrub that is growing north of the path from the staff car park to the Field Service Centre offices. It appears to have a habit similar to *Coprosma x kirkii*, although not as vigorous. The leaves are opposite, simple and have a single sharply triangular shaped interpetiolar stipule. The leaves are mostly elliptic to obovate or almost linear, the upper surface of the lamina is almost glossy and darker, almost black around the margins, and particularly at the apex. The lower surface is paler green with two domatia evident close to the midrib. The midrib above is cream to light brown and very evident in the lower part of the lamina. The petioles are 2-3mm and may be light or dark in colour.Margins are entire.

 Branches arranged in a herringbone pattern, this cultivar needs to be in full light

 Leaves darker at apex and base, also along margins

 Two domatia on lower surface of lamina evident
Coprosma colensoi

There is an example of this New Zealand native evergreen species growing on the western side of the car park near the Natural Resources Engineering Building. It is a divaricating shrub of about 1.5m in height and spread. It has small simple leaves arranged opposite each other with triangular shaped interpetiolar stipules terminated with a blunt tooth shaped projection. The leaves are approximately 1cm long x 2-5mm across on short winged petioles. The leaves are more or less glabrous, although under low magnification there are short hairs on the petiole and on the midrib to about half way up the lamina. Pinnate veins can just be seen below. Lamina is thick and glossy, darker green above, paler green below.

Divaricating small leaved coprosma south of Natural Resources Engineering.

Wide branching angles, leaves simple, opposite, larger within the bush
Coprosma ‘Coppershine’

This is an evergreen New Zealand native cultivar considered by Metcalf to be a selection from a cross between *C. acerosa* x *C. repens*. There are at least two examples of this hardy cultivar on campus, one on Farm Road on the south side of the car park south of the Winery, the other is in the border to the west of Lincoln Ventures. This is an easily recognised plant with shiny green, brown and bronze coloured leaves, colouring more toward a bronze colour in the winter.

Leaves are simple, opposite, very glossy

The form of the shrub is narrow bun shaped with upright branching
**Coprosma x kirkii** ‘Kirkii’

This is a spreading evergreen ground cover type sub shrub that may spread up to 2m or so. Initially the plant has a prostrate growth habit, but over time tends to produce long trailing branches that overlay earlier growth, eventually creating a mounded shape that can be a metre or more. This hybrid coprosma is grown in a number of areas on campus, south-west of the Natural Resources engineering buildings, car park north east of the High Performance Cricket Centre, south of the Winery car park etc. Leaves are glossy yellowish - green, simple, opposite, more or less linear to about 30-35mm by 5-6mm (occasionally in shaded areas much wider to 15mm or so).

*Coprosma x kirkii* ‘Kirkii’ is a good ground cover in full sun sites, initially prostrate, over time creates undulating mound shapes with new growth growing over existing branches.

A variegated cultivar *Coprosma x kirkii* ‘Kiwi Gold’ is growing north of Matron’s car park (Union car park) and in other areas on campus.
Coprosma repens  (taupata)

This is an evergreen New Zealand native species that is marginally hardy at Lincoln. There are a number of seedlings growing around campus now that appear to have some taupatu in their makeup, but are generally hybrids with other species. There is an example east of the Student Flats in Farm Road more or less opposite the Winery. This example is growing underneath the canopy of a wattle which would afford it some protection from frost damage. There is also an example against the north wall of the High Performance Cricket Centre, this appears to be a bronze leaved seedling, but generally in other respects is like taupata.

An upright growing shrub that is frost tender at Lincoln, hybridises freely and produces many seedlings of varying forms.

Leaves are simple, opposite, broadly obovate, petiolate, glossy and glabrous. Dan Dennehy has confirmed the above illustrations are from a seedling that just grew here.
Coprosma repens ‘Painter’s Palette’

This is an evergreen New Zealand native growing in an island bed in the car park to the west and slightly north of the High Performance Cricket Centre. This shrub is growing in a dry area that is sheltered by some of the large gum trees in the vicinity.

An upright growing shrub, appears to be the only example on campus.

Leaves are variously coloured, new growth green aging to browns, yellows and red-orange shades.
Coprosma repens ‘Pink Splendour’

There are two examples of this brightly coloured coprosma growing on the eastern side of Hudson Hall against a path to the centre of the building. Both appear to have been planted at the same time and were probably planted in 2005 or 2006.

This is a upright growing, small glossy leaved evergreen shrub that appears to be perfectly hardy. Colours intensify during the winter.

Leaves are simple, opposite, much smaller than the normal species.
Coprosma robusta (karamu)

There is a hedge row of this evergreen NZ native species grown amongst the formal hedges planted in the amenity area, however because of its tendency to grow upright it is not recommended for a situation where a formal hedge is required. As an informal hedge this plant would be excellent. It produces large quantities of orange-red drupes that are seen over the autumn and winter. This plant naturalises freely and many seedlings are seen across the campus, Coprosmas are dioecious plants, some are male, the others are female, where seedlings appear, generally there are anything up to a dozen or more which suggests bird spread of these species is likely to include at least some males and some females.
Cornus alba (Tatarian dogwood, Tartarian dogwood)

This is an easily recognised deciduous shrub. From autumn until spring it is recognised by its bright red upright stems. Leaves are usually opposite, simple, entire and petiolate. There are examples of this species to the north and east of Riddolls Building as you head toward the south west corner of Lincoln Ventures Buildings. Against the north east side of the Natural Resources Engineering is a less vigorous example which appears to be Cornus stolonifera

![Cornus alba 'Sibirica' Upright, red coloured bare stems in winter.](image)

Simple, opposite leaves, flowers summer.

The picture to the right shows this species spreads by stolons (underground stems) and is likely to be Cornus stolonifera (red osier, dogwood).
Corokia cotoneaster

There is an example of this species in the New Zealand native collection at the Amenity area. This is an evergreen divaricating shrub that grows to about one and a half metres in height and spread over a twenty year period. It is more or less bun shaped and has an overall brown grey colour. Leaves are alternately arranged, mostly spoon shaped and petiolate. The underside of the leaves are covered in appressed silver hairs, the upper surface is a dull brown green colour.

Flowering occurs mainly during mid to late spring and into early summer, followed by red drupes.

Divaricating branches, this example is on the north side of the John Burton Building (n.e. NRE buildings).
Corokia cotoneaster ‘Little Prince’

There is an example of this cultivar growing on the south side of the path from the Nursery to the Horticultural Teaching Lab. This example was planted in the late 1980’s and is about 2m high with a spread of about a metre or so. This differs from the species by being more upright and possibly not so strongly divaricated, it also has smaller leaves. It also has yellow flowers from mid spring, although this cultivar may have some flowers at any time of the year, followed by small dark red drupes.

Small spathulate or obovate leaves, yellow flowers mainly in spring, dark red drupes

Shrub south of the path opposite the Hort. Teaching lab toward the eastern end
Corokia buddleioides (korokio)

This is an evergreen shrub that grows to about 2m or more with a similar spread, the leaves of this species are much longer than the other New Zealand native species mentioned here. Leaves are simple, alternate, ranging from lanceolate to elliptic or oblanceolate, up to 15cm by up to 3cm across, with petioles to 1cm. The lower surface is covered in silvery hairs, veins are evident above. This is one of the parents the C. x virgata hybrids from which many garden cultivars have been selected, the other parent being C. cotoneaster. The hybrid cultivars tend to be intermediate in form between the two parents. Some examples from these have been selected from the Amenity area and trialled, some were sold to Commercial interests in early 2003 when staff changes were made.

Larger leaves of korokio and bright yellow star shaped flowers in mid October.

Seedling variations of C. x virgata selected and propagated in early 2000's for trialling.
Corokia x virgata ‘Cheesemannii’

This is one of a number of cultivars selected from a cross between C. buddleioides and C. cotoneaster. There is an example that is growing in the Amenity area as part of a hedge collection, there have been other examples grown on campus in the past and some may still exist. The yellow star shaped flowers are typical of corokias and are generally seen in spring and early summer, although some flowers may be seen at almost any time of the year.

Corokia x virgata ‘Red Wonder’

This example is growing to the west of the Field Services Centre lecture theatre, there is an example in the New Zealand native plants area within the Amenity area, other are probably other examples on campus. It is an evergreen shrub that generally is a round 2m in height with a spread of a little less. Like all corokias can be cut back or hedged if desired. The fruit produced in the late summer looks good in the autumn and usually holds well into the winter. Yellow flowers are also a feature in late spring and early summer.
Corokia x virgata ‘Sunsplash’

This is a variegated cultivar that is growing in a number of areas on campus. Examples are west of the Field Services Centre lecture theatre, in the area to the north of the High Performance Cricket Centre in Calder Drive and in the New Zealand native collection in the Amenity area. It can be expected to grow to about 2m in height with a spread of slightly less.

Leaves are alternate, obovate to spatulate, narrowing to a short petiole, leaves have a yellow margin, drupes are dark red

Corokia x virgata ‘Yellow Wonder’

There is a good example of this cultivar at the entrance to the Nursery on Farm Road, there are other examples on campus including the Amenity area. This is at its best with showy orange-yellow drupes in autumn. It is a more or less bun shaped shrub of around two metres high with a spread of slightly less.

Leaves alternate, obovate, short petiole, fruit orange – yellow, more or less round
Correa alba  (Australian fuchsia)

This is a hardy evergreen shrub that can be clipped and grown as a hedge or is very hardy in a coastal situation growing very well previously as a car park shrub at New Brighton. Examples of this species are growing in the Amenity area just to the north of the garage. It has white flowers over a long period. This example was grown from a cutting from the New Brighton plants which have now gone.

This example is north of the garage in the Amenity area.

Leaves, opposite, simple, broadly ovate to orbicular.
*Corylopsis sinensis*  (winter hazel)

There is a single example of this species on campus. It was a donation from the Christchurch Botanic Gardens via Richard Poole and is growing in the Amenity area to the east of the New Zealand native collection. It is a hardy deciduous shrub around three metres or so in height with a spread of about half. It is monoecious and produces fragrant pendulous spikes of flowers in late August and September.

Strongly ascending branches, this species is being crowded out by a *Ceanothus* to the west.

Flowers are visually attractive and also fragrant, an interesting, hardy species that grows to attain small tree like proportions. Both pictures above were taken on September 16th 2008.