

Society's lodges and houses (continued)

Waiheke Island Cottage

Onetangi, Waiheke Island

The cottage has comfortable bunk accommodation for eight people and has electric lighting, stove, refrigerator, and hot water. Adjacent to a 49-ha wildlife reserve, it is in easy walking distance from shops and beach. It is reached by ferry from Auckland City (two or three return trips daily) and by bus or taxi from the island ferry wharf. Everything is supplied except linen and food. **No animals are permitted.**

Summer (mid-October to Easter, inclusive)

Nightly (not weekends): \$2 per person per night.

Weekends: \$12 minimum. More than 2 adults, \$2 per person per night.

Weekly: \$30 minimum. More than 2 adults, \$2 per person per night.

Winter (after Easter to mid-October)

Nightly (not weekends): \$1.25 per person per night.

Weekends: \$12 minimum. More than 3 adults, \$1.25 per person per night.

Weekly: \$20 minimum. More than 2 adults, \$1.25 per person per night.

Children 15 years and under: First two, half rates; others, no charge.

A deposit of 50 percent is payable on booking, the remainder before entry.

Booking Officer: Mrs R. Foley, 23 Stoddard Street, Mt Roskill, Auckland. Telephone Auckland 696-769 (evenings).

Patoka Lodge

Hawke's Bay

For information and bookings apply to: June Northe, 212 Kennedy Road, Napier. Telephone Napier 438-193.

A gallery of New Zealand flora

THE ILLUSTRATION of the piripiri opposite is reproduced from *The Art Album of New Zealand Flora*, volume 1, by Mr and Mrs E. H. Featon, published by Bock and Cousins in 1889.

The piripiri, *Pittosporum cornifolium* (leaf like *Cornus*, the dogwood), is a slender and sparingly branched shrub 60 to 150 cm high. It usually grows as an epiphyte on the trunks or branches of trees or on rocks; it is never truly terrestrial.

Branches are usually forked or whorled, without hairs, but some young branches produce a few long silky hairs.

The leaves are mostly in whorls of three to five 3.5 to 7.5 cm long and elliptic-lanceolate. The flowers are polygamous or dioecious in

three to five flowered terminal umbels. The capsule is 1 cm in diameter, ovoid, and two to three valved; it is vermilion within and twisting when open.

This plant was first described by A. Cunningham and published in 1837 as a result of his collections of New Zealand plants made in 1826.

It is a remarkable and interesting plant peculiar to lowland to montane forests of the North Island and also in the Marlborough Sounds and the West Wanganui (Whanganui) inlet area of the South Island.

It is abundant in the far north, where it grows intermixed with other epiphytes on the trunks and branches of the rata and other large forest trees. It even has been known to grow out of the centre of a clump of *Astelia* which itself is

growing as an epiphyte on tree branches.

The flowers are rather insignificant and of a dingy crimson colour, but they have a fragrance. The seeds are very showy. These, as with other plants in the Pittosporaceae, are embedded in a thick yellow gluten.

The seeds themselves are blackish purple, and when the capsule opens, it forms two valves or flaps of a bright orange colour. The combination of colours is very striking and is probably to attract birds. As soon as the gluten dries, the seeds become detached and fall away.

The plate shows accurately the various stages of the seed receptacles during the ripening process, which is complete by the end of July.

—David G. Collingwood