


nine growing in an area just three centimetres square where a bunch of berries must have dropped. The seedlings also possess a conspicuously thickened, fleshy looking stem.

Surprisingly, there was no evidence of birds eating the ripe fruit. Although plants were found over an area several hundred metres square, they have not yet been dispersed to all suitable looking habitats on West Island. It remains to be seen whether birds will eat the berries, and if so, how long it takes before *Elingamita* is established on other islands in the Three Kings.

It was good news to be able to report that the population of this rare and little known plant was healthy and expanding. Some seed was brought back to Auckland, and plants will eventually be available through the nursery trade. 

#### References

- Baylis, G. T. S. 1951: *Elingamita* (Myrsinaceae) a new monotypic genus from West Island, Three Kings. *Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum* 4(2): 99–102.
- Baylis, G. T. S. 1958: A botanical survey of the small islands of the Three Kings Group. *Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum* 5(1&2): 1–12.

**Karaka like foliage, and inflorescences.**



**Not an apple! A single ripe *Elingamita* fruit, about 15mm across.**

