

Mānuka connections

Habitat

Mānuka trees provide shelter and habitat for animals.

Grey warblers and fantails like to build nests and feed in trees like mānuka and kanuka.

Foods for animals

Mānuka trees provide pollen and nectar for native bees, flies, moths, beetles and geckos.

Invertebrate connections

Many invertebrates such as moths, bees, flies, wētā, spiders and beetles, feed and live on mānuka trees.

Mānuka branches and trunks are sometimes covered with sooty mould (a black fungus that feeds on the honeydew from scale insects).

Stick insects like to eat mānuka.

Interesting fact

This tree produces the nectar for our world famous mānuka honey which is believed to have great healing properties.

Threats

Introduced animals, such as goats and sheep, usually don't choose to eat mānuka. This makes it a great choice to plant when you want to start growing a forest. However plant pests such as wandering willie and ivy can take over open areas, stopping mānuka seedlings growing.

People can be a threat to mānuka, when they cut it down for firewood or for other use of land.

Native beetle on mānuka.



Puriri moth on mānuka. Photo: Phil Bendle



Bee on Mānuka. Photo: Nga Manu Images NZ



Gecko on Mānuka. Photo: Rod Morris



Mānuka tree. Photo: Shan Walker

