



# NGAIO

(*Myoporum lactum*)

Sub  
Canopy  
10m



### **Description:**

- Ngaio is most salt and wind tolerant and is found in coastal forests throughout NZ except in the very south.
- While not a tall tree it does spread out to form a large canopy.
- The leaves are fleshy and quite distinctive. Oil glands give them a spotted appearance. These glands are poisonous and secrete the oil that provides the salt and wind protection. Don't let cattle graze ngaio.

### **Fruit & Flowers:**

- Appearing mid-spring to mid-summer the flowers are white with purple spots.
- The small fruit are described as drupes-- a large stone surrounded by flesh. Much like a plum. The fruit turn darker as they ripen.

### **Uses:**

- Ngaio are very good shelter trees in coastal gardens. They can be pruned into a hedge.