



MANUKA

(Tea tree)

Understory
4m

(*Leptospermum scoparium*)



Description:

- Common species found in open sites, both dry and wet, throughout NZ. From sea level to 1400m
- Leaves are prickly to the touch
- The bark flakes off in strips

Fruit & Flowers:

- White flowers from early spring to summer
- Seed capsules the size of raisins and may remain on the plant more than a year
- The seed itself is similar to small orange/ brown rice grains

Pests/Diseases:

- Not a disease as such there is a black sooty mould on twigs and branches. It is a fungus that feeds on honeydew
- Honeydew is the remains of sap sucking scale insects

Uses:

- As the name suggests, tea tree leaves have been used as a tea to ward off scurvy
- Manuka honey from the flowers of course