Differentiating divaricating species of Sophora by the development of shoot architecture.

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Abstract: Morphometric measurements of mature organs have been suggested as a means to classify plants as divaricating or not (Kelly 1994). Carswell and Gould (1998) suggest that such measurements do not effectively distinguish between divaricate and non-divaricate species in the *Sophora* genus (New Zealand kōwhai). Instead, they suggest developmental processes might be used to classify divariacates in this genus. We investigate whether there are significant differences in the development of shoot architecture between the divaricate species *S. prostrata* (the prostrate kōwhai) and the arborescent species *S. tetraptera* (the large-leaved kōwhai).

References

Carswell, F.E. and Gould, K.S. (1998) Comparative vegetative development of divaricating and arborescent *Sophora* species (Fabaceae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany*, 36:295-301

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