

Kauri

Family: Araucariaceae Genus: Aghatis Australis

The Kauri is actually not a pine,
but a conifer.

This Kauri is about 250 to 300 years old. It was not cut down during the logging times (1840 - 1900) because it was too small.



Picture: Kauri Bark with formation of gum drip.

Kauri is one of the world's largest trees, Native to Northern New Zealand. It produces an excellent quality of timber and also gum that can be used by industry.



Picture above: Piece of Kauri Gum. Gum was one of NZ's biggest exports.

Kauri grew mainly north of Auckland and in the Coromandel. Today 75% of the remaining 20'000 ha of Kauri forest in New Zealand is in the Hokianga Harbour area. The Kauri tree has become the icon of the West Coast of Northland. There are many Kauri still standing in the Wairere Boulder valley. They are up to 500 years old and cannot be seen along the track. All bigger trees were logged by William Webster, who built the first mechanical timber mill in New Zealand (1839). It was power driven with water from the Wairere stream. The big poplars on the river flat - North of the Wairere Boulder Info Shed - mark the place where the mill stood.



Picture on left: Female cones close to maturity.

For more info see

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