

# Manono

*Gouldia affinis* (DC.) Wilbur

Madder or coffee family (Rubiaceae)

Native species (endemic)

The genus *Gouldia*, common name manono, is known only from Hawaii and has numerous variations of shrubs and small trees grouped into four species. This species has many varieties and forms. Plants of this genus have paired short-stalked leaves mostly small, oblong, and leathery, with paired blunt stipules that shed early, clusters of many small greenish flowers with four lobes meeting at edges in bud, and small round bluish black fruits, two-celled and many-seeded.

Evergreen shrub, woody vine, or small tree to 26 ft (8 m) tall and 6 inches (15 cm) in trunk diameter. Bark gray, smooth to finely fissured; inner bark brownish, slightly bitter. Twigs gray, four-angled, with enlarged ringed nodes, hairless.

Leaves opposite, with short leafstalks less than  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (1 cm) long and paired small blunt stipules that shed early. Blades mostly oblong, 2–4 inches (5–10 cm) long and 1– $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (2.5–4.5 cm) wide, thick and leathery, blunt or short-pointed at both ends, turned under at edges, above shiny green with few inconspicuous curved side veins, beneath dull light green and often slightly hairy.

Flower clusters (panicles) branched, 1–2 inches (2.5–5 cm) long, mostly terminal. Flowers many, shortstalked, about  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (10 mm) long, composed of greenish base (hypanthium)  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (3 mm) long; four-toothed greenish calyx; purplish green corolla  $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (6–10 mm) long with narrow tube and four narrow tube and four narrow spreading lobes overlapping in bud; four short stamens within corolla tube near end; and pistil with inferior two-celled ovary, many ovules in each cell, and slender style two-lobed at end.

Fruits (berries) round,  $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{3}{8}$  inch (6–10 mm) in diameter, bluish black, with calyx teeth at apex, two-celled and many-seeded.

Wood light brown, hard. Uses by Hawaiians were for canoe trim and rigging, none at present.

Widespread in wet forests through the islands, mainly at 900–6700 ft (274–2042 m) elevation.

## **Special areas**

Kokee, Volcanoes

## **Champion**

Height 20 ft (6.1 m), c.b.h. 3 ft (0.9 m), spread 12 ft (3.7 m). Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii (1968).

## **Range**

Hawaiian Islands only

## **Botanical synonym**

*Gouldia terminalis* (Hook. & Arn.) Hillebr.

This genus was dedicated by Asa Gray to his colleague Augustus Addison Gould (1805–66), zoology professor at Harvard University.



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Fruiting twig (above), flowering twig (below), 1 X.