Essential Oils of the Leaves of the *Raukaua* Genus (Araliaceae)

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The *Raukaua* genus of the family Araliaceae consists of 3 species, *R. anomalus*, *R. edgerleyi* and *R. simplex*, all endemic to New Zealand. The essential oil of *R. edgerleyi* and *R. simplex* consisted largely of monoterpenes. Limonene was the most abundant (23%) in *R. edgerleyi* and myrcene the most abundant (34%) in *R. simplex*. The oil of *R. simplex* lacked any significant sesquiterpenoids whereas bicyclogermacrene constituted 12% of the oil of *R. edgerleyi*. The oil of *R. anomalus* contained monoterpenes in low abundance and the sesquiterpenoids germacrene-B (15%) and \( \gamma \)-muurolene (16%) dominated the composition of this oil. The oil of *R. edgerleyi* had a pleasant fresh green aroma but the low yields of all three oils excluded them from potential commercial use.

*Key words: Raukaua anomalus, edgerleyi and simplex, Araliaceae, Essential Oil*