

Robust grasshopper

They have a life-cycle of about two years and adults eat about two leaves a day.



They are really smelly which makes them an easy lunch for introduced pests that hunt by smell, like hedgehogs and stoats.

Robust grasshoppers don't live in grass—they live in gravel riverbeds.

They can jump quite well but they aren't very good at landing—they do a kind of belly-flop.

Females grow to about 4cm long, about twice the size of males (that's a male on her back).

This is a super-rare pink robust grasshopper. The pinkness is caused by a genetic mutation called erythrism—a condition of abnormal redness.

About Te Manahuna Aoraki

Te Manahuna Aoraki is a conservation project protecting the landscapes and threatened species over 310,000ha of the upper Mackenzie Basin and Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park (that's nearly three times the size of Auckland, and twice the size of Stewart Island/Rakiura).

Find out more on www.temanahunaoraki.org

