

Abrodictyum strictum

COMMON NAME

erect bristle fern

SYNONYMS

Trichomanes strictum Menzies ex Hook. et Grev.; *Macroglena stricta* (Hook. et Grev.) Copel.; *Trichomanes leptophyllum* A.Cunn.; *Trichomanes rigidum* var. *strictum* (Menzies ex Hook. et Grev.) Field,

FAMILY

Hymenophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Abrodictyum strictum (Menzies ex Hook. et Grev.) Ebihara et K.Iwats.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

TRISTR

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (from Te Paki south), South Island, Stewart Island/Rakiura and Chatham Islands. Mainly westerly on the two main islands of New Zealand. Extremely uncommon on the Chatham Islands where it is known only from two sites on Chatham Island (Rēkohu).

HABITAT

Coastal to montane, in closed forest (at usually (but not exclusively) at higher elevations in the North Island), often in tree caves, and amongst exposed tree roots, in and around rock overhangs, cave entrances, and within pot holes in ephemeral streams, or on mossy logs and moss covered banks and ledges within stream systems. Occasionally on clay banks in gumland scrub.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial tufted fern. **Rhizomes** short, stout, erect, bearing numerous red-brown hairs. **Fron**ds dark green, ± erect, arcuate. **Stipes** 30–140 mm long. **Rachises** narrowly winged throughout. **Laminae** 60–200(–220) × 20–60 mm, narrowly elliptic, 3-pinnate, somewhat stiff and bristly. **Primary and secondary pinnae** stalked, imbricate; ultimate segments linear, each furnished with a single unbranched vein. **Sori** present near bases of lamina segments, stalked on short branches, several on each primary pinna. **Indusia** tubular, mouth slightly flared, receptacle exserted.



Showing growth habit, Mt Te Aroha.
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Underside of mature frond showing sporangia,
Mt Te Aroha. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from other New Zealand members of *Abrodictyum* species by the short, erect rhizomes, and long, narrow rather stiff and bristly fronds with finely divided linear ultimate segments. Most often confused with young plants of the very different *Leptopteris hymenophylloides* from which it can be distinguished by the tubular indusia bearing hair-like exerted receptacles.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult—should not be removed from the wild.

THREATS

Not Threatened. However, this species is biologically sparse and possibly merits listing as 'At Risk-Naturally Uncommon' with the qualifier "Sp" [Sparse].

ETYMOLOGY

abrodictyum: From the Greek habros 'delicate', 'pretty' and diktyon 'net', literally "delicate net"

strictum: From the Latin strictus 'upright, stiff'

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

TAXONOMIC NOTES

NZPCN now follows Ebihara et al. (2006) in recognising *Abrodictyum* as distinct from *Trichomanes*. Although Brownsey & Perrie (2016) rejected this idea, the generic segregation was adopted by the PPG I (2016) and is now widely followed throughout the world.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (21 April 2011). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Brownsey PJ, Smith-Dodsworth JC. 2000. New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. David Bateman, Auckland, NZ. 168 p.
- Brownsey PJ, Perrie LR. 2016. Hymenophyllaceae. In: Breitwieser I, Heenan PB, Wilton AD. Flora of New Zealand - Ferns and Lycophytes. Fascicle 15. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln, NZ. <https://doi.org/10.7931/B1QP4Z>.
- Ebihara A, Dubuisson, J-Y, Iwatsuki K, Hennequin S, Ito M. 2006. A taxonomic revision of the Hymenophyllaceae. *Blumea* 51: 2–57. <https://doi.org/10.3767/000651906X622210>.
- PPG 1: The Pteridophyte Phylogeny Group 2016. A community-derived classification for extant lycophytes and ferns. *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* 54: 563–603. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jse.12229>.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/abrodictyum-strictum/>