

Cololejeunea falcidentata

COMMON NAME

Liverwort

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Lejeuneaceae

AUTHORITY

Cololejeunea falcidentata R.M.Schust.

FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Liverworts

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Critical

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (Northland from Herekino and Mangamuka south to Waipu)

HABITAT

Corticolous. Coastal to lowland. Usually on totara (*Podocarpus cunninghamii* and *P. totara* var. *totara*) bark.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Plants corticolous, minute dull yellow-green to golden. Forming diffuse patches up to 50 µm in diameter, weakly geniculate. Stem straight. Leaves almost flat, weakly imbricate, 350-370 x 240-255 µm, ovate with postical side almost straight above lobule. Lobule c.0.4x lobe length and 0.375 lobe width. Cells at lobe apex slightly bulging but not strongly tuberculate. Dorsal surface with low tuberculae, tholoid, one per cell to 6 µm tall and 6.0-7.5 µm diameter. Oil bodies 2-7 per cell, narrow spindle shaped, granular, 4.5-6.0 x 1.5-2.0 µm. Ocelli absent, though a row of larger cells in the leaf base close to the keel margin is present. Lobules oval in shape, inflated and all identical cells not projecting except for a few low tuberculae at the distal end of the keel. Lobule furnished with a 2-celled, conspicuously falcate tooth that almost reaches the leaf margin, with papilla at base of lower cell. Gemmae subspherical, multicellular, common on ventral surface of older leaves. Perianth dorsiventrally flattened with 4 distinct keels. Stylus scarcely evident.

FRUITING

Fruiting plants have yet to be seen

THREATS

Although apparently extinct at Mangamuka (searches for it there have been undertaken) ad hoc surveys for this species have disclosed several large populations in scattered sites throughout Northland. Because it is very small this species is very easily overlooked, and as recent surveys suggest probably even more widespread than is currently known



SUBSTRATE

Corticolous on *Leptospermum scoparium* and *Podocarpus totara* var. *totara* bark. Often associated with *Lejeunea flava*

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange November 2009. Description adapted from unpublished notes provided by J.E. Braggins by P.J. de Lange (November 2009)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cololejeunea-falcidentata/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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