Amphidium lapponicum

COMMON NAMES
moss

BIOSTATUS
Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2025 | At Risk – Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp, DPR, DPS, DPT, RR, S?O
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Non-vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Mosses

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Plants small to medium-sized, up to 35 mm tall, dark green or yellowish brown, in dense tufts. Stems erect, simple or forked, radiculose below. Leaves strongly curled and contorted when dry, narrowly oblong- to linear-lanceolate; margins irregularly and narrowly recurved below, entire or indistinctly sinuate above; costa single, strong, ending near the leaf apex, papillose on both sides; upper laminal cells rounded-hexagonal, 8–10 µm in diameter, thick-walled, very opaque, densely warty-papillose; lower cells slightly larger, rectangular, thin-walled, hyaline or pale yellowish, smooth; alar cells not differentiated. Autoicous. Perichaetial leaves greatly enlarged, entirely sheathing, broad at base, short-pointed at the apex. Setae up to 2 mm long, as long as or shorter than perichaetial leaves; capsules shortly emergent, 1.0–1.3 mm long. Spores 9–12 µm in diameter, usually smooth or nearly so.

DISTRIBUTION
Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands. Also China, Japan, Central Asia, Europe, Greenland, Iceland, and North America

HABITAT
Terricolous on moist rocks in montane forest and subalpine scrub.

THREATS
Amphidium lapponicum is known from very few sites, all of which are located within protected land. There are no known threats. For this reason Amphidium has been listed as “Naturally Uncommon” (see Glenny et al. 2011).

GENUS
Amphidium

FAMILY
Rhabdoweisiaceae

AUTHORITY
Amphidium lapponicum (Hedw.) Schimp.

SYNONYMS
Anictangium lapponicum Hedw.; Amphidium sublapponicum (C. Müll.) Broth.; Zygodon sublapponicus C. Müll.

ENDEMIC TAXON
No

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FRUITING
Fruiting material is known from New Zealand but there are insufficient gatherings as yet to determine periodicity

NVS CODE
AMPLAP

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2014 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp
2010 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp
Jump to current conservation status

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING
Glenny, D.; Fife, A.J.; Brownsey, P.J.; Renner, M.A.M.; Braggins, J.E.; Beever, J.E.; Hitchmough, R. 2011: Threatened and uncommon bryophytes of New Zealand (2010 Revision). New Zealand Journal of Botany 49: 305-327.

ATTRIBUTION
Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 26 October 2011. Description adapted from the Chinese eFlora (see http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=4&taxon_id=200000880)

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/amphidium-lapponicum/

PDF DATE
27 May 2026