

Anogramma leptophylla

COMMON NAME

Jersey fern, Annual fern

SYNONYMS

Polypodium leptophyllum L., *Grammitis leptophylla* Swartz, *Gymnogramme leptophylla* Desv., *Gymnogramme novae-zelandiae* Colenso; *Osmunda leptophylla* (L.) Savigny in Lam.; *Hemionitis leptophylla* (L.) Lag.; *Acrostichum leptophyllum* (L.) Lam. et DC.; *Asplenium leptophyllum* (L.) Sw.; *Grammitis leptophylla* (L.) Sw.

FAMILY

Pteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Anogramma leptophylla (L.) Link

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

ANOLEP

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 52, 58

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: EF, RR, SO, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: SO, EF, RR, Sp

2004 | Gradual Decline

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. In New Zealand known from Northland to Southland - easterly in its distribution. Also known from Australia, South America, Africa, India and Europe.

HABITAT

Clay banks, rock faces and alluvial banks.

FEATURES

Diminutive, tufted, winter dormant, early spring to mid summer-green fern, which dries off by mid to late summer, appearing dead. Rhizomes small, hairy. Stipes red-brown, glabrous. Fronds 10–60 mm long, ovate or narrowly ovate, 2–3-pinnate, 8–50 x 7–30 mm, pale green or yellow-green, somewhat membraneous and delicate, glabrous. Sterile fronds smaller than fertile, appearing first. Ultimate frond divisions fan-shaped and deeply notched. Sori near tips of pinnae, one per segment.



A close up of abaxial frond surface, Mount Wellington. Photographer: John Braggins



Mt Wellington (1997). Photographer: Bec Stanley

SIMILAR TAXA

None

FLOWERING

Not applicable - spore producing

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

Not applicable - spore producing

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult and should not be removed from the wild.

THREATS

This species is mainly threatened through habitat loss through competition from weeds, and by the removal of surrounding vegetation.

ETYMOLOGY

anogramma: From the Greek ano 'upward' or 'above' and gramma 'lined' or 'written', referring to the sori maturing first near the tips

leptophylla: Slender leaf

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (17 April 2011). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moss, T. 1988. The Anogramma-Targionia association. *Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin*, 44: 16-18

Brownsey, P.J.; Smith-Dodsworth, J.C. 2000: *New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants*. Auckland, David Bateman

CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Anogramma leptophylla Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anogramma-leptophylla/>