

Blindia seppeltii

COMMON NAMES

moss

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2025 | At Risk – Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, RR

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CATEGORY

Non-vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Autoicous moss up to 60 mm long, glossy, yellow-brown to olive-green when terrestrial, dark-brown to black when aquatic, forming mats or cushions. Stems with thick-walled outer stem cells, central strand present. Leaves erect-flexuose to falcate-secund, similar to spreading-erect when moist, lamina 5.0-8.0 mm long from an oblong-lanceolate base, more or less gradually narrowed to a long slender subula, acute, subula at least 2-3x as long as lamina; margins entire; nerve 40-100 microns wide, well defined, filling the subula. Upper cells 25-100 x 6-10 microns, rectangular-elongate, thick-walled, clear and distinct. Lower cells 35-120 x 6-10 microns, rectangular-elongate, thick-walled, clear and distinct. Alar cells 20-40 x 10-18 microns, not or poorly differentiated, rectangular-oblong, mostly hyaline, thin-walled, basal cells decurrent. Perichaetial leaves broader near base and quickly narrowed to subula. Seta 5.0-13.0 mm long, variable in length, very stout, thick, usually rigid, flexuose to erect when moist and dry, brown to black. Capsules 1.0 x 1.0 mm, small hemispheric-obovate when moist, when old turbinate to obconic, rarely hemispheric, black, variably exserted, Exothecial cells 20-50 x 10-25 microns, elliptic to narrowly rectangular, most longer than wide, thick-walled, pachydermous, rim cells quadrate-rounded, not oblate. Stomates not seen. Peristome of 16, lanceolate, acute teeth, well-developed, fragile and often missing on old capsules. Operculum conic rostrate, beak more or less oblique. Spores 16-40 microns.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Auckland, Campbell and Macquarie Islands.

SUBSTRATE DETAILS

Saxicolous and terricolous on moist rocks, within seepages and submerged within lakes.

THREATS

Not Threatened. Listed because it is a naturally uncommon, range restricted species.

GENUS

Blindia

FAMILY

Seligeriaceae

AUTHORITY

Blindia seppeltii Bartlett & Vitt

SYNONYMS

None (first described in 1986)

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No



ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FRUITING

Although fruit has been seen insufficient information exists to provide any details on the timing of fruiting

NOTES

This species is treated as endemic because although found on Macquarie Island which is part of geopolitical Australia, Macquarie Island is part of the New Zealand Botanical Region(see de Lange & Rolfe 2010).

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2014 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, S?O

2010 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, S?O

2005 | Range Restricted

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Bartlett, J.K.; Vitt, D. H. 1986: A survey of the species in the genus *Blindia* (Bryopsida, Seligeriaceae). New Zealand Journal of Botany 24: 203-246.

de Lange, P.J.; Rolfe, J.R. 2010: New Zealand Indigenous Vascular Plant Checklist. Wellington, New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. 164pp.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (6 November 2007). Description adapted from Bartlett & Vitt (1986).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/blindia-seppeltii/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026