

Buxbaumia novae-zelandiae

COMMON NAMES

moss

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2025 | At Risk – Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp, DPR, DPS, DPT

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CATEGORY

Non-vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Minute, colonial plants growing on a felted protonema on soil or rock. Leaves up to 0.6 mm long, red-brown, narrowly or broadly lanceolate, acute or obtuse, sometimes irregularly divided at the apex; margins bluntly toothed in upper half, without cilia. Cells most subrectangular, smooth, incrassate. Seta 10-25 mm long, red, smooth or slightly and finely papillose, glossy. Capsule 6-7 mm long, suberect, oval in outline, slightly flattened above, pale brown, smooth. Stomata superficial, often wanting, 2-celled. Outer peristome of more than one layer of cells. Operculum bluntly conical. Spores c.10 microns diameter.

DISTRIBUTION

?Endemic. North Island (Atiamuri, Karakariki, Barryville, Bennydale, Te Kuiti, Pureora, Wairoa, Ngaroma, Mokau, Awakino, Tarawera); South Island (Seddonville, Grey Valley near Greymouth)

SUBSTRATE DETAILS

Terricolous or saxicolous on acidic rocks and soils derived from these, where it usually grows from amongst dead or dying liverworts. This species has been collected from coastal to montane forest and scrub.

THREATS

Not Threatened. Although very easily overlooked indications are that this species is genuinely uncommon and biologically sparse

GENUS

Buxbaumia

FAMILY

Buxbaumiaceae

AUTHORITY

Buxbaumia novae-zelandiae Dixon

SYNONYMS

None - though *Buxbaumia colyeriae* Burges of New South Wales, Australia might be conspecific

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FRUITING

October - February (possibly longer)



ETYMOLOGY

novae-zelandiae: Of New Zealand

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2014 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: Sp

2010 | Not Threatened

2005 | Sparse | Qualifiers: SO?

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 30 September 2007.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Buxbaumia novae-zelandiae* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/buxbaumia-novae-zelandiae/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/buxbaumia-novae-zelandiae/>

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25 May 2026