

# Caladenia bartlettii

## SYNONYMS

*Caladenia carnea* var. *bartlettii* Hatch, *Petalochilus bartlettii* (Hatch) D.L.Jones et M.A.Clem.

## FAMILY

Orchidaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Caladenia bartlettii* (Hatch) D.L.Jones, Molloy et M.A.Clem.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Orchids

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, Sp

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, EF

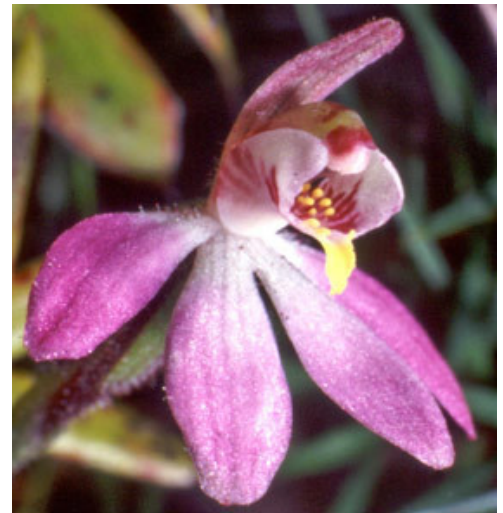
2004 | Sparse

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island, from Te Paki to about the northern Waikato and Kaimai Ranges (exact southern limits as yet unclear though plants that may have been reported from Nelson and Marlborough)

## HABITAT

Coastal to montane (0-500 m a.s.l.). In the strict sense virtually confined to kauri (*Agathis australis* (D.Don.) Lindl.) forest where it grows in leaf litter, often near the bases of kauri trees. Also found in gumland scrub (but always in association with kauri remnants). Evidently relishes infertile soils.



Scott Point at the top of Ninety Mile Beach.  
Photographer: Eric Scanlen, Licence: CC BY-NC.



*Petalochilus bartlettii*. Photographer: Kevin Matthews, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial orchid usually occurring as solitary plants sometimes as small colonies of up to 10. All parts finely but sparsely eglandular hairy. Leaf solitary up to 200 x 2 mm long, narrow-linear, dark purple-green to reddish-green. Stem erect, slender somewhat wiry, up to 300 mm tall, sparsely eglandular-glandular hairy. Floral bracts 1(-2). Flowers 1(-2) up to 20 mm diameter, in lax racemes, perianth dark glazed mauve to magenta often fading to pink or white near flower centre. Sepals narrowly-elliptic to broadly elliptic, apex obtuse; dorsal sepal erect others spreading to somewhat deflexed. Labellum 3-lobed, marked with transverse dark pink to magenta bands, disc with 2 unequal lines of stalked calli, stalks dark pink to magenta, globular callus heads yellow, lateral lobes deeply cut; mid-lobe broadly triangular, recurved, margins irregular wavy, dark yellow, marginal calli absent. Column erect to slightly recurved, dark pink to magenta, often with 2-3 darker transverse, irregular bars, column wings distinctly broadening toward apex.

## MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

Key to native orchids of New Zealand

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Caladenia alata* is somewhat similar but smaller (up to 120 mm tall) has dull (not glossy) white, pink, red or mauve flowers, perianths with acute rather than obtuse-rounded segment apices, and on either side of the mid-lobe a single orange callus is present. The mid-lobe is also orange-tipped and strongly recurved. *C. alata* is not confined to kauri forest and is most often found in gumland scrub.

## FLOWERING

October - December

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

## FRUITING

November - February

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

## THREATS

*Caladenia bartlettii* is apparently a rather sparsely distributed and naturally uncommon orchid. However, it is quite likely that the apparent rarity of this species is also in part due to its being overlooked for despite its colourful flowers it is not easily seen amongst the leaf litter in which it usually grows. A further issue is that there seems to be much confusion as to the correct application of the name with a number of unnamed segregates allied to *C. bartlettii* recognised by some New Zealand orchidologists.

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

Jones et al. (2001) revived the genus *Petalochilus* R.S.Rogers (erected by Rogers (1924) for what has come to be viewed as a peloric state of *Caladenia* R.Br. - see Moore & Edgar (1970)) for a distinct clade of mostly New Zealand orchids that had usually been referred to as *Caladenia*. Subsequently Hopper et al. (2004) showed how the reorganisation of *Caladenia* by Jones et al. (2001) was unworkable and they recommended a return to *Caladenia* and the other allied Australian genera that had been recognised previously. Following discussion with S. Hopper and P. Weston (*pers. comm.*, 2011, 2014) the treatment of Hopper et al. (2004) is preferred to that of Jones et al. (2001) and so followed here.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (12 February 2007). Description based on Jones et al. (1997) - as *Caladenia bartlettii*.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Hopper, S.D.; Brown, A.P. 2004: Robert Brown's *Caladenia* revisited, including a revision of its sister genera *Cyanicula*, *Ericksonella* and *Pheladenia* (Caladeniinae: Orchidaceae). *Australian Systematic Botany* 17: 1-240.
- Jones, D.L.; Molloy, B.P.J.; Clements, M.A. 1997: Three new species and a new combination in *Caladenia* R.Br. (Orchidaceae) from New Zealand. *The Orchadian* 12: 221-229.
- Jones, D.L.; Clements, M.A.; Sharma, I.K.; Mackenzie, A.M. 2001: A New Classification of *Caladenia* R.Br. (Orchidaceae). *The Orchadian* 13: 389-419.
- Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.
- Rogers, R.S. 1924: *Petalochilus*: a New Genus of New Zealand Orchids. *Journal of Botany* 62: 65-67

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/caladenia-bartlettii/>