

Cranfillia nigra

COMMON NAME

Black hard fern

SYNONYMS

Struthiopteris nigra (Colenso) Ching; *Lomaria nigra* Colenso; *Polybotrya nana* Fée; *Spicanta nigra* (Colenso) Kuntze; *Blechnum nigrum* (Colenso) Mett.

FAMILY

Blechnaceae

AUTHORITY

Cranfillia nigra (Colenso) Gasper et V.A.O.Dittrich

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

BLENIG

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 66

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

ETYMOLOGY

nigra: Black

TAXONOMIC INFORMATION

Perrie et al. (2014) advocated for a broadened circumscription of Blechnaceae whereby a number of genera traditionally recognized as distinct from *Blechnum* were merged within it. However, this view has not met with universal acceptance (see Gasper et al. 2016) and does not seem to be followed worldwide (PPG 2016). From a New Zealand perspective the decision to merge *Doodia* in *Blechnum*, and rejection of *Diploblechnum* has not been universally accepted either e.g., Wilcox & Warden (2017), and as such it is considered appropriate to follow world opinion and accept the taxonomy of Gasper et al. (2016) and recommendations of the PPG (2016).



Mangaone track. Nov 1984. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Coromandel. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Gaspar, A.L.; de Oliveira Dittrich, V.A.; Smith A.R.; Salino, A. 2016: A classification for Blechnaceae (Polypodiales: Polypodiopsida): New genera, resurrected names, and combinations. *Phytotaxa* 275: 191–227.
- Perrie, L.R.; Wilson, R.K.; Shepherd, L.D.; Ohlsen, D.J.; Batty, E.L.; Brownsey, P.J.; Bayly, M.J. 2014: Molecular phylogenetics and generic taxonomy of Blechnaceae ferns. *Taxon* 63(4): 745–758.
- PPG 1: The Pteridophyte Phylogeny Group 2016: A community-derived classification for extant lycophytes and ferns. *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* 54: 563–603.
- Wilcox, M.; Warden, J. 2017: Botany of Hillsborough coast bush reserves, Manukau Harbour, Auckland. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal* 72: 32–46.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cranfillia-nigra/>