

Cryptogonium phyllogonioides

COMMON NAMES

moss

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2025 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, RR, SO

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Non-vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. Kermadec Islands: Raoul Island. Widespread and common throughout the high islands of the tropical Pacific and also in New Guinea, Northern Australia, Indonesia and Malesia.

HABITAT

Saxicolous on rock in ravines and also found growing with other mosses, lichens and liverworts on the upper branches of Kermadec pohutukawa (*Metrosideros kermadecensis*) on Raoul Island.

THREATS

Only known from two small populations on Raoul Island (Smith's Bluff and Sunshine Valley) where it was discovered during a five day survey of the south-eastern and western parts of that island undertaken as part of the Kermadec Biodiscovery 2011 Expedition to the Kermadecs during May 2011. A similar survey of the north and north-eastern parts of Raoul Island in May 2009 did not locate this species. Although it seems likely that this species is really a naturally uncommon species which is probably also its world southern limit on Raoul Island. The fact that this moss occupies an area of less than 1 square metre means it qualifies as Nationally Critical

GENUS

Cryptogonium

FAMILY

Pterobryaceae

AUTHORITY

Cryptogonium phyllogonioides (Sull.) Isov.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

N.A. - spore producing



Raoul Island (Nov 2011) from a specimen collected by Peter de Lange (May 2011).
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.



Raoul Island (Nov 2011) from a specimen collected by Peter de Lange (May 2011).
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.

FRUITING

N.A. - spore producing

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2014 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, SO

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 1 July 2011.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cryptogonium-phylogonioides/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026