

Cyclosorus interruptus

SYNONYMS

Many including *Pteris interrupta* Willd., *Thelypteris interrupta* (Willd.) Iwatsuki, *Nephrodium propinquum* R.Br., *Nephrodium inaequilaterum* Colenso, *Nephrodium unitum* R.Br., *Cyclosorus gongyloides* (Schkuhr) Link; *Dryopteris gongyloides* var. *glabra* (Mett.) Domin; *Dryopteris gongyloides* sensu Cheeseman

FAMILY

Thelypteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Cyclosorus interruptus (Willd.) H.Itô

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

CYCINT

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 72

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: SO

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: SO

2004 | Gradual Decline

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous: North Island, from Te Pahi to Kawhia Harbour, the Bay of Plenty (including Mayor Island), the Rotorua Lakes to Taupo and near East Cape. Also known from Australia and throughout the tropical and warm-temperate Pacific where it is not threatened.

HABITAT

A species of geothermal habitats, and frost-free, coastal and lowland wetlands, especially those dominated by raupo (*Typha orientalis*) and swamp millet grass (*Isachne globosa*).

FEATURES

A creeping fern with harsh, hairless, olive-green fronds to 800 mm long. Frond stalks are slender, up to 600 mm long by 5 mm wide, almost black at the base but becoming brownish. Frond leaflets (pinnae) occur in 9–15 pairs, the basal pair are larger and sickle-shaped with each successive pair becoming shorter. The spores are found in closely packed sori distributed nearer the midrib than the leaflet edge.



Cyclosorus interruptus at Tokerau Beach, Karikari Peninsula. Photographer: Bill Campbell



A photo by R.J. Stanley (2003).

SIMILAR TAXA

Could only be confused with *Pneumatopteris pennigera* with which it sometimes grows. However, this species has longer, narrower pale green, soft hairy fronds of even length and shape that wilt easily. *Pneumatopteris pennigera* also occupies different habitats, being found on stream-banks in kahikatea remnants, and on shaded limestone overhangs and cave entrances.

FLOWERING

Spore bearing fronds may be found throughout the year

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

Spore bearing fronds may be found throughout the year

LIFE CYCLE

Minute spores are wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from division of whole plants. Can be grown from fresh spore. Frost tender, and does best in damp or waterlogged ground.

THREATS

Drainage, land development and fern collectors.

ETYMOLOGY

interruptus: Interrupted in some way

WHERE TO BUY

Sold by a few specialist native plant nurseries. Not widely grown.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cyclosorus-interruptus/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cyclosorus-interruptus/>