Frullania toropuku

COMMON NAME
Liverwort

SYNONYMS
None. First described in 2013

FAMILY
Frullaniaceae

AUTHORITY
Frullania toropuku von Konrat, de Lange et Larrain

FLORA CATEGORY
Non-vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2013 | Data Deficient

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Minute reddish-brown, monoicous foliose liverwort; perianth plicate, 3 major keels + 2–3 supplementary keels, the perianth surface conspicuously ornamented, bullate; the first branch leaf (BL1) of a Frullania-type branch often reduced in size and atypical of the normal stem leaves, with all three segments explanate or at most sulcate, and leaves characteristic of the main stem not developing until either BL2, BL3 or BL4

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. New Zealand: North and Stewart Islands - known from North Cape (Surville Cliffs), Little Barrier Island, Table Mountain, and from Stewart Island (Paterson Inlet)

HABITAT
Variably - has been collected from serpentine rock and associated saprolite in a small forest remnant; also from the trunks of trees in cloud forest, and from tree trunks in coastal forest.

FLOWERING
Not Applicable - species reproduces by spores

FRUITING
Unknown - the four collections are all fruiting and these were made between October and February

LIFE CYCLE
Capsules are water and possibly also wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

THREATS
Probably not threatened, and probably will prove to be a naturally uncommon, biologically sparse species. However, at this stage there is insufficient information to make a definitive assessment, and this is why Frullania toropuku is listed as 'Data Deficient'. Frullania toropuku is part of the F. rostrata complex, it is minute, and very hard to recognise in the field - this makes surveying for it difficult, and so it may well be that determining an accurate conservation status will prove impractical.

ATTRIBUTION
REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

CITATION
Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Frullania toropuku Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/frullania-toropuku/ (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION