

Hampeella pallens

COMMON NAMES

moss

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2025 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, S?O

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CATEGORY

Non-vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Plants corticolous, slender, tufted, green, glossy. Primary stems very short. Secondary stems to 20 mm tall, closely tufted, densely radiculose at the base, mostly simple, flattened and almost distichously foliate. leaves to 2 mm long, somewhat rugose, decurrent; dorsal and ventral leaves distinctly nearly erect and appressed and almost symmetrical; lateral leaves distinctly asymmetrical, ovate-lanceolate, acuminate, with the margin incurved on one side at the base; distantly and sharply denticulate in the upper half. Leaves at the base and apex of the stem symmetrical and much smaller. Nerve very thin-walled, linear-rhomboid, smaller at the apex and widened at the base; occasionally coloured and incrassate at the angles. Long brood-filaments produced from axials of the upper leaves. Perichaetia large, sheathing. Seta 6-9 mm long, lateral on secondary stems, slightly curved, reddish or yellow. Capsule 2.0-2.5 mm long, usually suberect, oblong or nearly cylindrical, sharply 8-ribbed; exothecial cells collenchymatous; annulus not differentiated. Operculum conico-rostrate, with a long oblique beak. Peristome double, inserted on the rim; outer teeth not conjoined at the base, lanceolate, quickly narrowed above, hyaline-margined, transparent on the median line so as to appear to be divided, striolate and red-brown below, hyaline and papillose above; ventral lamellae projecting internally and laterally; basal membrane of endostome yellow, almost smooth processes nearly half the height of the teeth, entire. Cilia lacking. Spores 14-32 μm , irregular in size and shape, brown. Autoicous; male inflorescence, lateral, gemmiform.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North Island (Kaimai Ranges, Tuhua (Mayor Island), Lake Rotoehu Forest)

HABITAT

Corticolous on trees and vines (especially supplejack (*Ripogonum scandens*) and bush lawyer (*Rubus cissoides*)) in lowland to lower montane mixed podocarp - broadleaved forest.

THREATS

Hampeella appears to be genuinely scarce in New Zealand and it is known from very few specimens and sites. It is not clear what threatens it.

GENUS

Hampeella

FAMILY

Ptychomniaceae



Mayor Island (Tuhua). Jan 2012, from a specimen collected by Peter de Lange. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.



Leaf detail. Mayor Island (Tuhua). Jan 2012, from a specimen collected by Peter de Lange. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.

AUTHORITY

Hampeella pallens (Sande Lac.) M.Fleisch.

SYNONYMS

Cladomnion pallens Sande Lac., Hampeella pallens (Sande Lac.) M.Fleisch. var. pallens

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FRUITING

Fruiting material is known from New Zealand specimens but there is insufficient data available to determine the exact season they are likely to be seen

ETYMOLOGY

pallens: Pale, pallid

NVS CODE

HAMPAL

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2014 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, DPS, DPT

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, RR, ?SO

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Critical

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Sainsbury, G.O.K. 1955: A handbook of the New Zealand mosses. Royal Society of New Zealand Bulletin 5.
Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 25 October 2011. Description from Sainsbury (1955).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hampeella-pallens/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026