

Hymenophyllum dilatatum

COMMON NAME

Filmy fern, Matua mauku

SYNONYMS

Mecodium dilatatum (G. Forst.) Copel.; Sphaerocionium dilatatum (G.Forst.) C.Presl; Trichomanes dilatatum G.Forst.; Diploophyllum dilatatum (G.Forst.) Bosch; Leptocionium sororium C.Presl

FAMILY

Hymenophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Hymenophyllum dilatatum (G. Forst.) Sw.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

HYMDIL

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 72

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic, New Zealand: North, South, Stewart, Chatham and Auckland Islands. Widespread except for the drier parts of the eastern South Island.

HABITAT

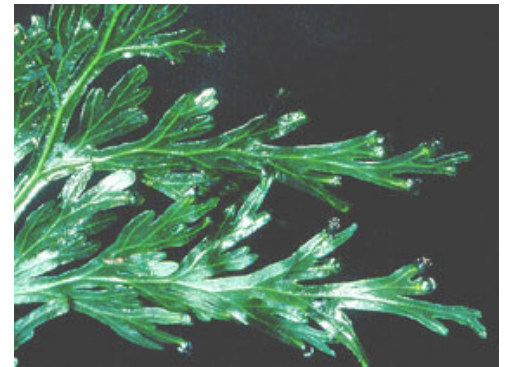
Coastal to montane in forest. Usually epiphytic or on fallen logs and banks, Very rarely on the forest floor or on boulders.

FEATURES

Epiphytic (very rarely terrestrial) fern. Rhizomes long-creeping, gracile, wiry when fresh very brittle when dry. Stipes often widely spaced on rhizomes, 20-150(-200) mm long, stout, glabrous, distinctly though narrowly winged for part of length; rachises broadly winged throughout. laminae 80-400(-800) × 40-150(-160) mm, ovate, narrowly ovate to lanceolate, 3-4-pinnate, bright to dark green, glabrous. Ultimate segments rather broad, margins smooth, plane. Sori terminating ultimately segments, slightly sunk in lamina, many on each primary pinna. Indusial flaps smooth. Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).



Coromandel, June. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Coromandel, June. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from all other Hymenophyllum by the glabrous, smooth margined fronds; by the conspicuous broad, flat wing bordering much of the stipe and all of the rachis; and by the very broad pinnae.

FLOWERING

N.A.

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

N.A.

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

ETYMOLOGY

hymenophyllum: Membranous leaf, from the Greek humen and phullon

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (17 April 2011). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Brownsey, P.J.; Smith-Dodsworth, J.C. 2000: New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. Auckland, David Bateman
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/hymenophyllum-dilatatum/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hymenophyllum-dilatatum/>