

Hymenophyllum revolutum

COMMON NAME

filmy fern

SYNONYMS

Hymenophyllum tunbridgense var. cupressiforme sensu Hook.;
Hymenophyllum pusillum Colenso; Hymenophyllum tunbridgense sensu
A.Rich.; Hymenophyllum zeelandicum Bosch

FAMILY

Hymenophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Hymenophyllum revolutum Colenso

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

HYMREV

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 72

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island, South Island, Stewart Island/Rakiura, Chatham Islands.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane. Found throughout New Zealand usually in closed forest where it most commonly epiphytic but also found on rocks, cliff faces, fallen logs, on moss covered hummocks and sometimes on the ground.



Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 22/12/2004, Licence: CC BY.



Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 11/07/2006, Licence: CC BY.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Epiphytic and/or terrestrial fern forming, in ideal situations, extensive turf-like patches. **Rhizomes** long-creeping, very thin, much-branched and interwoven, wiry when fresh, brittle when dry. **Fronds** light green. **Stipes** 5–30 mm long, thin, brittle, glabrescent, not winged; rachis narrowly winged in upper portion. **Laminae** 10–90 × 5–20 mm, narrowly elliptic to ovate, 2–3-pinnate. **Ultimate segments** linear to oblong, often forked, margins deeply toothed. **Sori** on short winged branches near rachis, 1 on acroscopic margin of each primary pinnae. **Indusial flaps** deeply toothed, teeth irregular. (Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000)).

SIMILAR TAXA

Morphologically similar to *Hymenophyllum cupressiforme* and *H. peltatum*, species from which it is distinguished by its partially winged rachis and by the very deeply toothed indusial flaps.

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 (20 April 2011). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Brownsey PJ, Smith-Dodsworth JC. 2000. New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. David Bateman, Auckland, NZ. 168 p.

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Hymenophyllum revolutum* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

MORE INFORMATION

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