

Lastreopsis velutina

COMMON NAMES

velvet fern

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: Sp

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

GENUS

Lastreopsis

FAMILY

Dryopteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Lastreopsis velutina (A.Rich.) Tindale

SYNONYMS

Ctenitis velutina (A.Rich.) Copel.; Lastrea velutina (A.Rich.) Brack.;
Nephrodium velutinum (A.Rich.) Hook.f.; Aspidium velutinum A.Rich.;
Dryopteris velutina (A.Rich.) Kuntze

TAXONOMIC NOTES

In a recent reassessment of the generic position of *Lastreopsis* Labiak et al. (2015) placed most of the New Zealand species of *Lastreopsis* within *Parapolystichum*. Gardner et al. (2017) completed the transfer—confirming in the process the findings of Labiak et al. (2015) that *Lastreopsis hispidula* and *L. velutina* are still correctly assigned to *Lastreopsis*.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This plant has been featured as a Plant of the Month – see [Trilepidea](#): NZPCN newsletter for July 2014 for the full story.

ETYMOLOGY

lastreopsis: Like Lastrea, a fern known to the ancient Greeks; from the greek Lastrea and opsis

NVS CODE

LASVEL



Silverstream, Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 07/10/2006, Licence: CC BY.



Lamina hairs. Silverstream, Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 07/10/2006, Licence: CC BY.

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 82

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

Jump to current conservation status

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp, DPS, DPT, DE Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the “Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland” Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Critical | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, NR, OL Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the “Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025” Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Gardner JJS, Perrie L, Shepherd L, Nagalingum NS. 2017. Taxonomic Placement of Unassigned Species of Lastreopsis Ferns (Dryopteridaceae) Using Phylogeny. *Systematic Botany* 42(3): 385–391.

<https://doi.org/10.1600/036364417X695952>.

Labiak PH, Sundue M, Rouhan G, Moran RC. 2015. New combinations in *Lastreopsis* and *Parapolystichum* (Dryopteridaceae). *Brittonia* 67: 79–86.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lastreopsis-velutina/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026