

# Lindsaea linearis

## SYNONYMS

*Lindsaea linearis* var. *trilobata* (Colenso) C.Chr.; *Adiantum lineare* (Sw.) Poir.; *Lindsaea lunata* Willd.; *Lindsaea trilobata* Colenso

## FAMILY

Lindsaeaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Lindsaea linearis* Sw.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

## NVS CODE

LINLIN

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 68

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands. Also Australia and New Caledonia. Common from North Cape south to the Bay of Plenty, local south of here until Wellington where it is common. Locally common in North-West Nelson, otherwise scarce in the South Island. Abundant on Rekohu (Chatham Island).

## HABITAT

Coastal to lower montane. Usually in open ground (especially in gumland and pakihi), on clay pans, under light scrub and on the margins of bogs and swamps.



Pinehaven, Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Hunua hills. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

## FEATURES

Terrestrial, tufted fern. Rhizome short- to long-creeping, c.0.6-1.0 mm diameter; scales to 2 mm long, golden brown. Fronds dimorphic. Stipes widely spaced 20-260 mm long in fertile fronds, shorter in sterile fronds, red-brown, purplish black or black. lamina 50-250 × 5-15 mm long in fertile fronds shorter in sterile fronds, 1-pinnate, linear. Pinnules sessile to shortly stalked. gradually reduced towards apex. often more distant towards base. Sterile pinnules flabellate (asymmetrical or not) to diamond-shaped, to 6-10 × 3-6 mm wide, herbaceous; outer margin crenate or more deeply incised. Fertile pinnules flabellate to broadly cuneate, 3-5 × 4-7 mm, herbaceous to coriaceous; outer margin uneven. Veins free, 2-4× forked. Sori usually continuous; indusium 0.7-1.0 mm wide, not extending to margin, pale greenish, often strongly reflexed. Spores pale brown, smooth. Description from Kramer & McCarthy (1998).

## SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished for other *Lindsaea* species by the red-brown, purple-black to black stipes; dimorphic sterile/fertile narrowly pinnate fronds (the fertile fronds are typically erect and the sterile ones prostrate); and by the flabellate (fan-shaped) pinnae.

## FLOWERING

N.A. - Spore producing

## FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

## FRUITING

N.A. - Spore producing

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

## ETYMOLOGY

**lindsaea**: Named after John Lindsay, 19th century British surgeon who discovered fern spore

**linearis**: Linear (leaves)

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (Updated 4 May 2011)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Kramer, K.U.; McCarthy, P.M. 1998: Lindsaeaceae. Flora of Australia 48: 228-240.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lindsaea-linearis/>