

Lindsaea trichomanoides

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial, tufted fern. **Rhizome** short- to long-creeping, to 1.5 mm diameter; scales narrowly triangular, reddish brown. **Fronds** monomorphic, erect and stiff. **Stipes** clustered or more widely spaced, shorter to longer than lamina, glossy, reddish brown to dark brown. **Lamina** 100–280 × 30–68 mm, 1–2-pinnate-pinnatifid, lanceolate to triangular-oblong, herbaceous. **Pinnae** oblong-deltoid or oblong-lanceolate, variously dissected, 4–10 mm long; pinnules flabellate-spathulate, asymmetric, often erose. **Upper pinnae and pinnules** gradually reduced and confluent. **Veins** free, simple to 3× forked. **Sori** mostly on 1–4 vein endings; indusium 0.3–0.5 mm wide, subentire. **Spores** trilete. (Description from Kramer & McCarthy (1998)).

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from the two other New Zealand species of *Lindsaea* by the terrestrial habit (not rheophytic like *L. viridis*), by the broader, bipinnate fronds with round ended ultimate segments.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North Island (common from Te Pahi south and west throughout, less common in the east), South Island (confined to the Marlborough Sounds and West Coast), Stewart Island/Rakiura. Also Australia.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane. Usually in closed forest (sometimes in scrub) often growing in relatively open sites on the forest floor, in leaf litter or amongst *Carex* spp. (especially *C. banksiana*, *C. subviridis* and *C. lectissima*).

GENUS

Lindsaea

FAMILY

Lindsaeaceae

AUTHORITY

Lindsaea trichomanoides Dryand.

SYNONYMS

Lindsaea cuneata (G. Forst.) C.Chr.; *Lindsaea cuneata* var. *lessonii* (Bory) C.Chr.; *Lindsaea trichomanoides* var. *lessonii* (Bory) Hook.f.; *Lindsaea lessonii* Bory in Duperrey; *Schizoloma trichomanoides* (Dryand.) Kuhn; *Adiantum cuneatum* G.Forst.; *Adiantum trichomanoides* (Dryand.) Poir.



Sori. Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 14/07/2001, Licence: CC BY.



Trounson Kauri Park. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 17/07/2006, Licence: CC BY.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

Not applicable—spore producing

FRUITING

Not applicable—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

trichomanoides: Fern-like

NVS CODE

LINTRI

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 84, 86

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT 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.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Kramer KU, McCarthy PM. 1998. Lindsaeaceae. *Flora of Australia 48, Ferns Gymnosperms and allied groups*: 228–240. ABRS/CSIRO Victoria, Australia.

ATTRIBUTION

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

MORE INFORMATION

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

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27 May 2026