Notogrammitis billardierei

COMMON NAME
Common strap fern

SYNONYMS
Polypodium billardieri (Willd.) C.Chr.; Grammitis australis R.Br.; Grammitis humilis Hombr.; Polypodium australe (R.Br.) Mett.; Grammitis billardierei Willd.; Grammitis meridionalis Parris

FAMILY
Polypodiaceae

AUTHORITY
Notogrammitis billardierei (Willd.) Parris

FLORA CATEGORY
Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON
No

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Ferns

NVS CODE
GRABIL

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 74

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2012 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION
Indigenous. New Zealand. North, South, Stewart, Chatham, Antipodes and Auckland Islands - from Warawara Forest south (not common north of Auckland on the Northland Peninsula). Also Australia (New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania)

HABITAT
Coastal to subalpine, though usually montane in the northern part of its range. A common low epiphyte in mostly closed forest on a range of trees and tree ferns, also commonly seen growing on mossy hummocks, rotting logs, clay banks, cliff faces, boulders and rubble slopes in dense forest.
FEATURES
Epiphytic, terrestrial or rupestral fern. Rhizome erect to short-creeping, rarely long-creeping; paleae light brown, lanceolate to narrowly lanceolate, acute to broadly acute, 2.2-6.3 × 0.48-1.5 mm. Stipes indistinct, winged almost to base; stipe hairs whitish to pale red-brown, sparse to common, 0.3-1.5 mm. Lamina (26-)56-136(-245) × (3-)3.9-6.9(-ll) mm; linear-oblancoolate, rarely elliptic to oblanceolate, acute or rarely obtuse, lamina hairs to 1.0 mm; sparse to absent on margin, midrib and lamina, similar to those on the stipe; texture thinly coriaceous to coriaceous; veins visible or invisible, rarely raised on upper and lower surface in dried material, endings not darkened; midrib raised below, usually darker than lamina. Sori oblong to linear, oblique, in upper and middle part of frond, 2-27 pairs, 1.5-7.5 × 1.0-2.0 mm; soral vein ending within the sorus or extending a little beyond it, shorter than basiscopic vein, neither reaching the margin. Sporangia (150-)177.5-208.9(-260) microns long; indurated cells of annulus (9-10.4-12.4(-15). Spores (18-)23.3-26.1(-31) microns diameter.

SIMILAR TAXA
Easily distinguished by the tufted growth habit, erect or very shortly creeping rhizomes, fronds that are 56-135 mm long, more or less exstipitate, and bearing unicellular hairs (at least on the stipe), and by the absence of hairs from the soral area.

FLOWERING
Not applicable - spore producing

FLOWER COLOURS
No flowers

FRUITING
Not applicable - spore producing

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild.

ETYMOLOGY
notogrammitis: From the Greek noto- ‘southern’ and gramma ‘line’, referring to this new genus of southern strap ferns which were previously in Grammitis.
billardierei: Named after Jacques Houttou de Labillardiere (1755-1834), 19th century French botanist who described several New Zealand plants

WHERE TO BUY
Not commercially available

TAXANOMIC NOTES
The New Zealand species of Grammitis along with Ctenopteris heterophylla and one Australian Grammitis (G. garrettii) one Lord Howe (G. diminuta) and one species endemic to the Moluccas and Indonesian (G. kairatuensis) have traditionally been placed in Grammitis (Parris & Given 1976; Parris 1998). However, these species (with the exception of G. diminuta, G. kairatuensis and G. stenophylla; B.S.Parris pers. comm. to P.J. de Lange January 2011) have now been transferred to a new genus, Notogrammitis Parris (Perrie & Parris 2012). Notogrammitis crassior is the fern that has been known in New Zealand for some time, incorrectly (see Perrie & Parris 2012) as Grammitis poepiggiana.

ATTRIBUTION
Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (Updated 25 April 2011). Description from Parris & Given (1976).
REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING


CITATION

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

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