Pleurophyllum criniferum

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: PD, RR
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS
Orange, Purple, Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Radical leaves ascending, up to > 1 m long including petiole; lamina of diverse shape, usually of oblong-ovate to broadly lanceolate order, clad below in thin appressed white tomentum, above in scattered setose and moniliform hairs, submembr.; ribs up to 20, less prominent than in P. speciosum; margins rather distantly and obscurely crenate with conspicuous linear hydathodes. Scapes stout, grooved, up to 2 m tall; lower leaves linear-oblong, diminishing to linear bracts. Capitula c.15-30, in elongate racemes; ray-florets short, inconspicuous; disk-florets purple. Involucral bracts acuminate, ciliate. Achenes densely strigose. Pappus-hairs slightly thickened at tips

Campbell Island. Photographer: Jane Gosden, Licence: CC BY-NC-SA.

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SIMILAR TAXA
Distinguished from Pleurophyllum speciosum by the submembranous, distinctly petioled leaves, and inconspicuous ray-florets. Pleurophyllum hookeri differs from both P. criniferum and P. speciosum by having leaves with both sides covered with silvery appressed tomentum.

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. Auckland, Campbell and Antipodes Islands

HABITAT
Coastal and lower montane peaty herbfield

THREATS
A naturally uncommon endemic. Widespread within its island habitants. The subantarctic islands on which it occurs are Nature Reserves and World Heritage sites with access only by permit, and strictly limited as to numbers of people.

GENUS
Pleurophyllum

FAMILY
Asteraceae

AUTHORITY
Pleurophyllum criniferum Hook.f.

SYNONYMS
Pleurophyllum hombronii Decne; Albinia oresigenesa Homb. et Jacq. ex Decne

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
December – February

FRUITING
January – May

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild

ETYMOLOGY
pleurophyllum: From Greek pleuro- (rib, side) and phyllo- (leaf) components meaning 'ribbed-leaved'.

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR
2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR
2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon
2004 | Range Restricted
Jump to current conservation status

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING
Allan HH. 1961. Flora of New Zealand, Volume I. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Psilopsida, Lycopsida, Filicopsida, Gymnospermae, Dicotyledones. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 1085 p.

ATTRIBUTION
Description adapted from: Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pleurophyllum-criniferum/

PDF DATE
08 July 2026