

Pseudodiphasium volubile

COMMON NAME

climbing clubmoss, waewaekoukou

SYNONYMS

Lycopodium volubile G.Forst.; *Lycopodium volubile* var. *durvillaei* (A.Rich.) Nessel; *Lepidotis volubilis* (G.Forst.) Rothm.; *Lycopodium durvillaei* A.Rich.;

FAMILY

Lycopodiaceae

AUTHORITY

Pseudodiphasium volubile (G.Forst.) Holub

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lycophytes (clubmosses, selaginella, quillworts)

NVS CODE

LYCVOL

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO?

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: Kermadec (Raoul Island), Manawatāwhi / Three Kings Islands, North Island, South Island and Stewart Island/Rakiura, Chatham Islands. Also south-east Asia, New Guinea, New Caledonia and Australia (one record Queensland—Chinnock 1998).

HABITAT

Coastal to montane. In gumland scrub, shrublands, forest margins (and along open ridgelines in dense forest), and on roadside banks and cuttings.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).



Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 01/08/2002, Licence: CC BY.



Upper Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 19/09/2004, Licence: CC BY.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Main stems scrambling or climbing (scandent) up to 8 m long, wiry, much-branched, terete, with scattered appressed subpeltate attenuated scale leaves, 3.5–5.0 mm long. **Branchlets** scattered, spreading, flattened into 1 plane. **Leaves** trimorphic, yellow-green (very rarely orange); lateral leaves in 2 alternate to opposite rows, tending to curl downwards, 3–5 mm long, up to 1 mm wide, ovate-lanceolate, falcate, attenuate, adnate; upper leaves in 2 alternate to opposite rows, appressed, 1–2 mm long, c. 0.2 mm wide, scale-like; lower leaves in 1 row, very scattered, appressed, up to 1 mm long, scale-like, obscure. **Strobili** up to 80 mm long, yellow-brown, straight or sometimes forked, borne in large pendulous clusters on sparsely-leaved much-branched stalks. (Description adapted from Chinnock (1998) and Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000)).

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily distinguished from all other New Zealand representatives of the family by the scrambling, climbing growth habit, flattened leaves, and by the numerous, clustered, pendulous strobili. For distinctions from *Diphasium scariosum* see under that species.

FLOWERING

N.A.

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

FRUITING

N.A.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild.

ETYMOLOGY

volubile: Twining; from the Latin *volvere*; a twining growth habit

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 20 March 2011. Description adapted from Chinnock (1998) and Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Brownsey PJ, Smith-Dodsworth JC. 2000. New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. David Bateman, Auckland, NZ. 168 p.

Chinnock RJ. 1998. Lycopodiaceae. *Flora of Australia 48, Ferns Gymnosperms and allied groups*: 66–85. ABRS/CSIRO Victoria, Australia.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pseudodiphasium-volubile/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pseudodiphasium-volubile/>