

Anogramma leptophylla

COMMON NAME

Jersey fern, annual fern

SYNONYMS

Polypodium leptophyllum L., *Grammitis leptophylla* Swartz, *Gymnogramme leptophylla* Desv., *Gymnogramme novae-zelandiae* Colenso; *Osmunda leptophylla* (L.) Savigny in Lam.; *Hemionitis leptophylla* (L.) Lag.; *Acrostichum leptophyllum* (L.) Lam. et DC.; *Asplenium leptophyllum* (L.) Sw.; *Grammitis leptophylla* (L.) Sw.

FAMILY

Pteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Anogramma leptophylla (L.) Link

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

ANOLEP

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 52, 58

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, RR, SO, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: EF, RR, SO, Sp

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: SO, EF, RR, Sp

2004 | Gradual Decline

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North Island, South Island—easterly in its distribution. Also Australia, South America, Africa, India and Europe.

HABITAT

Clay banks, alluvial banks, rock faces and overhangs. Often associated with liverworts.



Mt Wellington (1997). Photographer: Bec Stanley, Licence: CC BY-SA.



Mt Wellington (note liverwort Targionia) (1997). Photographer: Bec Stanley, Licence: CC BY-SA.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Diminutive, tufted, winter dormant, early spring to mid summer-green fern, which dries off by mid to late summer, appearing dead. **Rhizomes** small, hairy. **Stipes** red-brown, glabrous. **Fronds** 10–60 mm long, ovate or narrowly ovate, 2–3-pinnate, 8–50 x 7–30 mm, pale green or yellow-green, somewhat membraneous and delicate, glabrous. **Sterile** fronds smaller than fertile, appearing first. **Ultimate frond divisions** fan-shaped and deeply notched. **Sori** near tips of pinnae, one per segment.

SIMILAR TAXA

None

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult and should not be removed from the wild.

THREATS

This species is mainly threatened through habitat loss by competition with weeds, and by the removal of surrounding vegetation.

ETYMOLOGY

anogramma: From the Greek *ano* 'upward' or 'above' and *gramma* 'lined' or 'written', referring to the sori maturing first near the tips

leptophylla: Slender leaf

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (17 April 2011). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moss T. 1988. The *Anogramma-Targionia* association. *Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin* 44: 16–18.

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

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Anogramma leptophylla* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anogramma-leptophylla/>