

# Adiantum fulvum

## COMMON NAME

maidenhair

## FAMILY

Pteridaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Adiantum fulvum* Raoul

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

## NVS CODE

ADIFUL

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 116

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island, South Island, Chatham Islands. From Te Pahi south to the Taranaki and Hawke's Bay thence rather local reaching a southern limit on Banks Peninsula.

## HABITAT

Coastal to lower montane in closed forest on clay banks, amongst boulders, along stream sides and in moderately open sites on the forest floor.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tufted, terrestrial fern. **Rhizomes** short-creeping, c. 1.5–2.0 mm diameter. **FronDS** spreading, dark green, concolorous, to 500 mm long. **Stipe** to 150 mm long, clad in short setose hairs. **Lamina** 150–350 × 100–250 mm, ovate to broadly ovate, 2–3-pinnate at base and 1-pinnate above; rachises flexuous, glossy, covered in short setose hairs. **Pinnules** attached by a short stalk on one corner, oblong to oblong falcate, curved acroscopically at apices, distal margins irregularly lobed, proximal margins smooth, adaxially glabrous, abaxially covered in sparse to dense short, setose hairs. **Sori** 1–7–(10) along distal margins, one per lobe; soral flaps subreniform to reniform, glabrous, ± immersed in the lobe.



Kennedy Bay. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Kennedy Bay. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Easily confused with *Adiantum cunninghamii* with which it sometimes grows and from which it differs by its dark green rather than glaucescent fronds, and by the hairy stipes, rachises and undersides of the pinnules. *Adiantum viridescens* is also superficially similar it can be distinguished from *A. fulvum* by the narrower often sickle-shaped, shiny, dark green, glabrous pinnules.

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Slow but once established easy. Flourishes in deep shade, planted in a moist, well drained, fertile soil. Best grown from spores which must be sown fresh. Spores may take several years to produce plants.

## THREATS

Not Threatened but often rather uncommon over large parts of its range.

## ETYMOLOGY

**adiantum:** From the Greek a- 'without, lacking' and diantos 'moistened', the fronds of this fern are supposed to remain dry after submersion in water

**fulvum:** Tawny yellow

## ATTRIBUTION

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

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/adiantum-fulvum/>