

Dryopteris affinis

FAMILY

Dryopteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Dryopteris affinis Newm.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

DRYAFF

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Widespread weedy fern of mostly easterly parts of New Zealand. Often in urban areas where it grows along streams or in wasteland. Also colonised plantation forestry, gullies and coastal forest.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Deciduous, terrestrial ferns. **Rhizomes** stout, erect, often covered in dead stipe bases. **Stipes** 100–400 mm long, pale brown. Stipes and rachises densely covered in orange-brown scales. **Laminae** elliptic or narrowly elliptic, 2-pinnate, 0.3–1.25 × 0.15–0.3 m, glossy yellowish green to dark green. **Primary pinnae** in 25–50 (or more) pairs, narrowly triangular or ± oblong, tapering at apices, sessile, 80–150 × 20–30 mm, with a darkish patch near junction with rachis when fresh. **Secondary pinnae** in 15–30 pairs, oblong, adnate or decurrent on pinna midrib, obliquely truncate at apices, ± entire or sparingly toothed only at apices, to 15 × 7 mm; secondary pinnae on the basal pair of primary pinnae ± equal in length either side of midrib. **Sori** round, 1–5 pairs on each secondary pinna, often confined to upper pinnae, covered by reniform indusia which are rolled under sporangia when young.

YEAR NATURALISED

1980

ORIGIN

Europe, Asia

ETYMOLOGY

affinis: From the Latin ad + finis 'to the boundary', means 'neighbouring', 'allied to', 'akin to'

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (10 November 2012). Description adapted from Brownsey in Webb et al. (1988).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Brownsey PJ. 1988. In: Webb CJ, Sykes WR, Garnock-Jones PJ. Flora of New Zealand, Volume IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons. Botany Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Christchurch, NZ. 1365 p.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/dryopteris-affinis/>

