

Frullania toropuku

COMMON NAME

Liverwort

SYNONYMS

None. First described in 2013

FAMILY

Frullaniaceae

AUTHORITY

Frullania toropuku von Konrat, de Lange et Larrain

FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2013 | Data Deficient

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Minute reddish-brown, monoicous foliose liverwort; perianth plicate, 3 major keels + 2–3 supplementary keels, the perianth surface conspicuously ornamented, bullate; the first branch leaf (BL1) of a Frullania-type branch often reduced in size and atypical of the normal stem leaves, with all three segments explanate or at most sulcate, and leaves characteristic of the main stem not developing until either BL2, BL3 or BL4

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North and Stewart Islands - known from North Cape (Survive Cliffs), Little Barrier Island, Table Mountain, and from Stewart Island (Paterson Inlet)

HABITAT

Variably - has been collected from serpentinite rock and associated saprolite in a small forest remnant; also from the trunks of trees in cloud forest, and from tree trunks in coastal forest.

FLOWERING

Not Applicable - species reproduces by spores

FRUITING

Unknown - the four collections are all fruiting and these were made between October and February

LIFE CYCLE

Capsules are water and possibly also wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

THREATS

Probably not threatened, and probably will prove to be a naturally uncommon, biologically sparse species. However, at this stage there is insufficient information to make a definitive assessment, and this is why *Frullania toropuku* is listed as 'Data Deficient'. *Frullania toropuku* is part of the *F. rostrata* complex, it is minute, and very hard to recognise in the field - this makes surveying for it difficult, and as it may well be that determining an accurate conservation status will prove impractical.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 29 January 2013. Description adapted from von Konrat et al. (2013).



REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Von Konrat, M.; de Lange, P.; Larraín, J.; Hentschel, J.; Carter, B.; Shaw, J.; Shaw, B. 2013. A small world: uncovering hidden diversity in *Frullania* – a new species from Aotearoa-New Zealand. *Polish Journal of Botany* 58: 437–447.

DOI: 10.2478/pbj-2013-0056

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/frullania-toropuku/>