

Hylocomium splendens

COMMON NAME

Moss

FAMILY

Hylocomiaceae

AUTHORITY

Hylocomium splendens (Hedw.) B. S. G.

FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2009 | Sparse | Qualifiers: DP

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. Worldwide (Northern Hemisphere certainly), New Zealand, North Island, main axial ranges (Raukumara, Kaweka, Ruahine and Tararua Ranges)

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Robust matted, glossy yellow-brown or yellow-green moss (older stems and foliage distinctly darker coloured). Stems c.120 mm long, procumbent, stout, flexuose, younger parts dark red, clothed with branched paraphyllia, sometimes divided, regularly and densely bipinnate (or with branches simple and others pinnate); branches complanate, short, up to 10 mm long, slender, curved, terete and pointed. Stem leaves 1.75-2.00 mm long, erect and appressed both dry and moist, from a wide insertion; lamina broadly ovate-oblong, apiculate, with a usually short blunt point, slightly plicate below, concave; margins slightly recurved below, finely denticulate in the upper half; nerve double, sometimes reaching mid-leaf. Cells 40-50 microns long and 6 -8 x 1, narrowly linear, slightly sinuose, achlorophyllous, smooth; those at the base dark orange, shorter, wider, incrassate, not forming differentiated angle cells. Branch-leaves distinctly smaller, imbricated, to 1 mm long, elliptic-oblong, concave, not or slightly apiculate. Sex organs and sporophyte unknown in New Zealand.

FRUITING

Fruits not known

THREATS

Not Threatened. An apparently widespread but biologically sparse species of montane to alpine habitats in this country.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous on damp ground or water saturated peat amongst grasses and shrubs in montane to alpine situations

ETYMOLOGY

splendens: Splendid

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hylocomium-splendens/>

