

Phlegmariurus billardierei

COMMON NAME

hanging clubmoss

FAMILY

Lycopodiaceae

AUTHORITY

Phlegmariurus billardierei (Spring) Brownsey & Perrie

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lycophytes (clubmosses, selaginella, quillworts)

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = c.256

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

Not Evaluated

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: Kermadec Islands (Raoul Island), Manawatāwhi / Three Kings Islands, North Island, South Island and Stewart Island/Rakiura, Chatham Islands.

HABITAT

Coastal, lowland to montane forest (generally uncommon in montane forest). Usually epiphytic, occasionally terrestrial—and then often on cliff faces or on boulder field.

SIMILAR TAXA

Easily recognised by the usually epiphytic life style and pendent branches which divide dichotomously, into portions of equal diameter. The bases of these usually produce roots. In this species the sporophylls are smaller than the sterile leaves, and aggregated into quadrangular (4-angled) strobili. *Phlegmariurus billardierei* is distinguished from *P. varius* by its generally longer, pendent, more divided stems, and especially by the strobili. These are distinct from the sterile leaves, unlike those of *P. varius*, where the transition from leaf to sporophyll is gradual.

ETYMOLOGY

billardierei: Named after Jacques Houttou de Labillardiere (1755-1834), 19th century French botanist who described several New Zealand plants

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Brownsey PJ, Perrie LR. 2020. Lycopodiaceae. In: Breitwieser I, Wilton AD. Flora of New Zealand - Ferns and Lycophytes. Fascicle 27. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln. <https://doi.org/10.7931/kyrt-4p89>.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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



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MORE INFORMATION

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