

# Plagiochila kirkii

## COMMON NAME

Liverwort

## SYNONYMS

*Plagiochila bazzanioides* J.J.Engel et G.L.Sm.

## FAMILY

Plagiochilaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Plagiochila kirkii* Steph.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Liverworts

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Dp, Sp

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2004 | Range Restricted

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Originally described as endemic to Rangitoto Island, this species has turned up on the Paparoa Range (2004) on Chatham Island (2007) and at North Cape (2011). It is probably quite widespread, and has simply been overlooked.

## FRUITING

Fruiting period unknown

## THREATS

Not threatened. Although regarded as a narrow-range endemic, recent discoveries outside its type locality (Rangitoto Island) suggest that this species is better classified as a Naturally Uncommon, Sparse species - a ranking which was later adopted by Glenny et al. (2011).

## SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous on basalt and granite. In damp sites in dense forest and along stream sides.

## ETYMOLOGY

**kirkii**: After Thomas Kirk (18 January 1828 - 8 March 1898), a NZ botanist and lecturer in natural sciences and regarded as a leader of botanical enquiry in NZ for over three decades. One of his most significant publications was *Forest flora of NZ* (1889) but he also contributed over 130 papers to the *Transactions and Proceedings of the NZ Institute* and other journals.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 3 January 2009.



Rangitoto Island. Feb 2011, (specimen collected by P. J. de Lange). Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.



Rangitoto Island. Feb 2011. (specimen collected by P. J. de Lange). Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Licence: CC BY.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Glenny, D.; Fife, A.J.; Brownsey, P.J.; Renner, M.A.M.; Braggins, J.E.; Beever, J.E.; Hitchmough, R. 2011: Threatened and uncommon bryophytes of New Zealand (2010 Revision). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 49: 305-327.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/plagiochila-kirkii/>