

Polyphlebium venosum

COMMON NAME

veined bristle fern, veined filmy fern

SYNONYMS

Trichomanes venosum R.Br., *Crepidomanes venosum* (R.Br.) Bostock,
Phlebiophyllum venosum (R.Br.) Bosch;

FAMILY

Hymenophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Polyphlebium venosum (R.Br.) Copel.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

TRIVEN

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 72

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

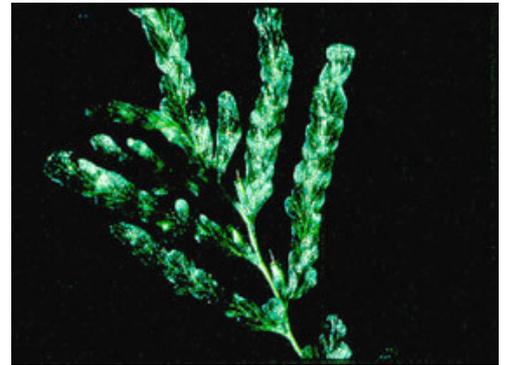
Indigenous. New Zealand: Kermadec (Raoul Island), North Island, South Island, Stewart Island/Rakiura, Chatham Islands. Also Australia.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane. A widespread and common filmy fern in the wetter parts of New Zealand. This species is usually found in closed forest where it is the characteristic epiphyte of tree fern (*Cyathea* and *Dicksonia* spp.) trunks, though it will colonise other suitable trees. It is also found on rock faces, amongst moss on boulders, in tree caves and very rarely on damp, moss and liverwort encrusted ground.



Rangaika, Chatham Island. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 01/06/2013, Licence: CC BY.



Coromandel. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Epiphytic (rarely terrestrial) fern usually forming dense carpets on suitable substrates. **Rhizomes** 0.2–0.8 mm diameter, widely creeping, much-branched and interwoven; densely hairy, hairs long, golden brown. **Fronde**s 20–180 mm long, bright green, translucent, venation conspicuous. **Stipe** 8–55 mm long, slender, not winged. **Rachises** winged. **Lamina** 20–110 × 15–65 mm, lanceolate to elliptic, somewhat irregular, 1-pinnatifid, 1(–2)-pinnate, glabrescent (hairs when present unbranched). Ultimate segments 1.5–6.0 mm wide; margins crenate; apex obtuse, truncate, often notched; veins pinnately branched; false veins absent. **Sori** immersed in short basal acroscopic lobes; involucre narrowly cylindrical, tapering to base, 1.5–4.0 × 0.8–1.2 mm, narrowly winged; mouth broadly dilated, sometimes bilabiate; receptacle exerted up to 10 mm beyond mouth.

SIMILAR TAXA

Polyphlebium venosum is easily recognised by the bright green, translucent, prominently veined fronds.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult—should not be removed from the wild.

ETYMOLOGY

venosum: Veined; from the latin vena; conspicuous veins

WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially available.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

NZPCN now follows Ebihara et al. (2006) in recognising *Polyphlebium* as distinct from *Trichomanes*. Although Brownsey & Perrie (2016) rejected this idea, the generic segregation was adopted by the PPG I (2016) and is now widely followed throughout the world.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (23 April 2011) based on Bostock & Spokes (1998).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Bostock PD, Spokes TM. 1998. Hymenophyllaceae. *Flora of Australia 48, Ferns Gymnosperms and allied groups*: 116–148. ABRIS/CSIRO Victoria, Australia.
- Brownsey PJ, Perrie LR. 2016. Hymenophyllaceae. In: Breitwieser I, Heenan PB, Wilton AD. *Flora of New Zealand - Ferns and Lycophytes*. Fascicle 15. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln, NZ. <https://doi.org/10.7931/B1QP4Z>.
- Ebihara A, Dubuisson, J-Y, Iwatsuki K, Hennequin S, Ito M. 2006. A taxonomic revision of the Hymenophyllaceae. *Blumea* 51: 2–57. <https://doi.org/10.3767/000651906X622210>.
- PPG 1: The Pteridophyte Phylogeny Group 2016. A community-derived classification for extant lycophytes and ferns. *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* 54: 563–603. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jse.12229>.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Polyphlebium venosum* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/polyphlebium-venosum/>