

Seligeria diminuta

COMMON NAME

Moss

SYNONYMS

Grimmia diminuta R.Br.bis

FAMILY

Seligeriaceae

AUTHORITY

Seligeria diminuta (R.Br.bis) Dixon

FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Mosses

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, RR

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Endangered

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: Castle Hill, Canterbury

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Autoicous, extremely small, tufted, saxicolous, whitish-green moss. Stems less than 1 mm tall, fastigiate. Leaves suberect to spreading; lamina linear-lanceolate, acute or shortly acuminate, concave; margin entire. Nerve failing below leaf apex. Upper cells punctiform. Perichaetial bracts erect, triangular, acute, almost 1/2 length of upper leaves, concave, with margin entire and nerve percurrent. Seta strongly falcate or cygneous. Capsule ovate or subglobose; mouth wide; peristome teeth 16.

FRUITING

Although fruit has been seen insufficient information exists to provide any details on the timing of fruiting.

THREATS

Very vulnerable to competition from weeds, trampling by rock climbers and mining/quarrying for lime and limestone rock. There is some evidence that this species has declined markedly since rock climbing became more popular in the Castle Hill basin.

SUBSTRATE

Limestone and other calcareous rocks, usually colonising fallen rock and rubble near cliff faces.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Fife, A.J. 2015: Seligeriaceae. In: Heenan, P.B.; Breitwieser, I.; Wilton, A.D. (ed.) *Flora of New Zealand - Mosses*. Fascicle 24. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln.
- Vitt, D.H.; Bartlett, J.K. 1983: The genus *Seligeria* in New Zealand. *Bryologist* 86: 106-113.



MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/seligeria-diminuta/>