



Pterostylis cardiostigma

Common Name(s):

None known

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. North and South Islands.

Habitat:

Coastal to montane. In indigenous or exotic forests and shrubland. Found in similar habitats to that frequented by *P. banksii* (with which it often grows). This species usually occurs as single plants or as widely spaced colonies of 4-6 plants.

Features*:

Stout, terrestrial, tuberous, leafy, spring to summer-green perennial herb. Tuber usually 1(-2), heart-shaped supporting 4-5 thick lateral roots. Plant at flowering up to 400 mm tall. Stem stout, thick, dark green or pinkish-green, basal portion covered by 3-4 pink to carmine sheathing bracts; internodes short. Leaves all cauline, 5-7, sessile, usually strictly upright, uppermost overtopping galea; lamina 80-280 x 10-20 mm, dark green, linear-lanceolate, acuminate; midrib prominent, red, slightly to deeply grooved above, 2(-3) lateral yellow veins present either side, keel prominent, usually red. Flowers solitary, mostly green finely striped with white, apices usually pinkish or red, erect, tall and very narrow. Dorsal sepal up to 70 mm long, vertical in lower half, upper half steeply inclined rarely horizontal, apex acuminate, dark red. Lateral sepals overtopping galea, narrowly spreading, with long filiform, red caudae. Petals 60-65 mm long, marginal strip long and exposed, apices red; galea width at petal apex 6 mm. Labellum narrow, long, triangular, arching in upper third, apex acuminate; distal half red with pale retrorse hairs on the upper surface and a dark red dorsal median ridge becoming paler near base; undersides with red median groove. Column shorter than labellum, stigma prominent, cordate, Ovary erect 10-30 mm tall.

Flowering:

October - December

Fruiting:

December - March

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2007: Description modified from Cooper (1983).

References and further reading:

Cooper, D.A. 1983: *Pterostylis cardiostigma* - a new species of Orchidaceae from Wellington, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 21: 97-100.

Hatch, E.D. 1990. *Pterostylis cardiostigma* D. Cooper a new record for the Waitakeres. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal*, 45: 18.

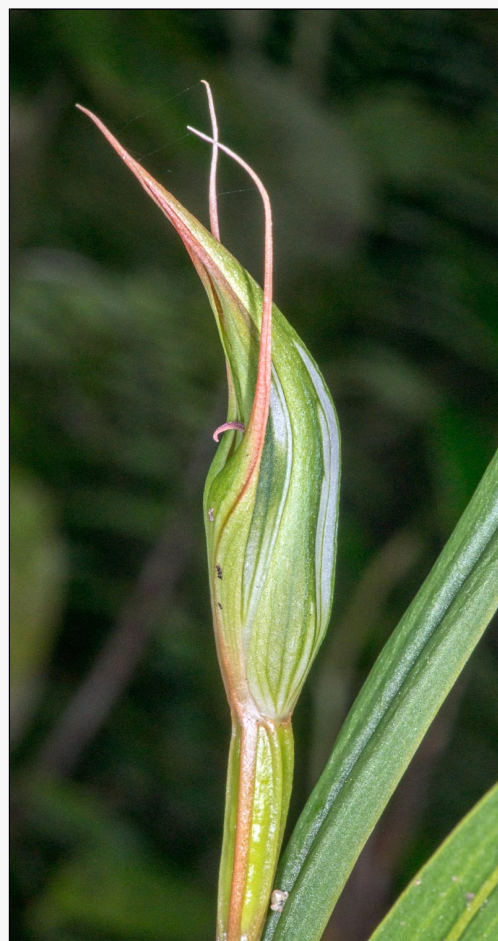
Young, M. 1991. The northward march of *Pterostylis cardiostigma* D. Cooper. *Auckland Botanical Society Journal*, 46: 22-24.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1211



Caption: Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.
Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



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