



## *Aporostylis bifolia*

### **Common Name(s):**

Odd-leaved orchid

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Endemic monotypic New Zealand genus. Known from the North, South, Stewart, Chatham, Auckland, Campbell and Antipodes Islands. In the North Island present from Te Moehau south. Widespread elsewhere.

### **Habitat:**

Initially subalpine to high montane but descending to lowland and coastal habitats in southern half of range. A species of bogs, seepages and damp open ground, shrubland, tussock grassland or forest. Often found in plantation forest, particularly under pines.

### **Features\*:**

Stocky, glandular-pubescent, terrestrial, perennial spring to summer-green, tuberous herb. Tubers globose-conical. Plant at flowering up to 200 mm tall. Stem erect, slender, densely glandular-pubescent, green to reddish-green. Leaves near stem base, close to ground, paired, close-set, dark green to green, usually brown or purple spotted, densely to sparsely covered in glandular pubescent hairs, these forming an obvious marginal fringe; lower leaf 100-200 mm long, the upper leaf usually conspicuously shorter; lamina broadly ovate-oblong, broadly oblong, broadly lanceolate, elliptic, rarely linear-lanceolate. Flower usually solitary, rarely paired, subtended by a partially sheathing floral bract; bract partially enclosing ovary. Perianth up to 250 mm diameter, white or pink, glandular-pubescent. Sepals more or less externally glandular-pubescent; dorsal sepal upper most, shallowly concave, wider than laterals, slightly arched over column, lateral sepals similar to petals, linear-lanceolate, wide-spreading. Petals similar but slightly shorter. Labellum sessile, simple, orbicular-obovate broadly expanded with narrower base, margins entire; calli near base, linear to linear-elliptic, yellow, in two median more or less longitudinal rows. Column elongate, erect to slightly curved, column-wings fused in front of base, narrow to level of stigma, there wider and extending upwards as small, sharply pointed lobes, one either side of anther. Anther terminal, apiculate, papillose, pollinia two per cell, pollen finely granular. Stigma discoid, rostellum median.

### **Flowering:**

October - March

### **Fruiting:**

December - May

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

### **References and further reading:**

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

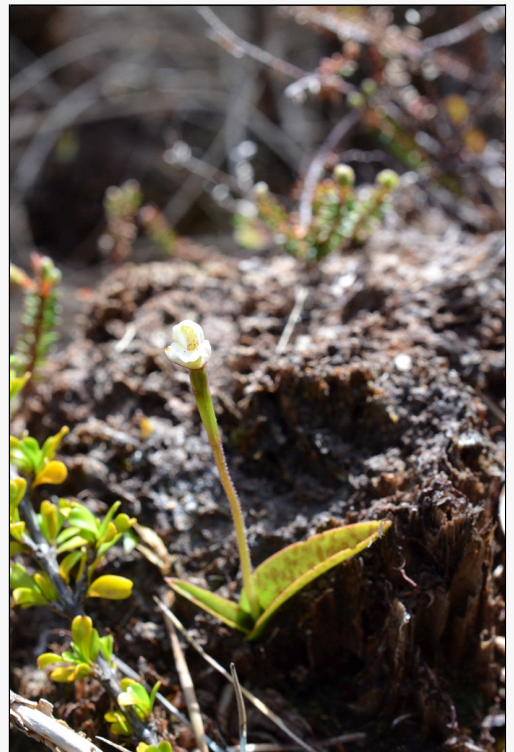
### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1399](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1399)



**Caption:** Silverpeaks

**Photographer:** John Barkla



**Caption:** Auckland Island

**Photographer:** Jane Gosden