



Adiantum diaphanum

Common Name(s):

Tuberous maidenhair, Small maidenhair

Current Threat Status (2012):

Non Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: Kermadec (Raoul Island), North, South and Chatham Islands (common from Te Pahi to the Waikato otherwise rather local reaching as far south as Dunedin). Also southern China, Japan, Taiwan, Vietnam. Malesia, Australia, Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands and the wider Pacific.

Habitat:

Coastal to lowland in closed or open forest. Often on clay banks, under overhangs, on rubble slopes or along rocky stream sides.

Features*:

Tufted, terrestrial fern. Rhizomes erect, c.2 mm diameter; scales concolorous, golden brown, with entire margins and prominent apical seta. Roots and rootlets bearing ovoid proliferous tubers to c.1.5 mm long. Fronds tufted, adaxially dark green, abaxially paler, to 360 mm long. Stipe to 180 mm long, smooth adaxially, scabrous abaxially. Lamina 20-170 × 20-130 mm, 1-pinnate, or 2(-3)-pinnate at the base and 1-pinnate above, subpedate, hastate or deltoid, membranous; rachises flexuous, glossy, glabrous. Basal pinna, when present, 1 or 2 (rarely more), narrowly deltoid, 1-2-pinnate. Pinnules dimidiate, rectangular to subtrapeziform, becoming cuneate-flabellate in apical segments, abaxially sparsely to very sparsely setose or glabrous, adaxially glabrous or setose hairy; distal margins shallowly lobed, denticulate when sterile; veins dark brown near stalk, otherwise pale. Sori 1-10 along distal margins, usually 1 per lobe; soral flaps round to subreniform, setose or glabrous, deeply immersed in the lobe. Spores c.64 per sporangium, yellow, perine scabrous; largest diameter (25.6-)33.9(-51.9) microns.

Flowering:

Not applicable - spore producing

Fruiting:

Not applicable - spore producing

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (Updated 4 May 2011). Description adapted from Bostock (1998).

References and further reading:

Bostock, P.D. 1998: Adiantaceae. Flora of Australia 48: 248-263.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1476



Caption: Great Mercury Island

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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