



Asplenium appendiculatum subsp. *maritimum*

Common Name(s):

Coastal Spleenwort

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North and South Islands – mainly around the Cook Strait but known as far south as Banks Peninsula and Kahurangi Point, and as far north as the Waitakere coastline, west of Auckland.

Habitat:

Coastal. Usually on exposed cliffs and rocks subject to salt spray, or amongst coastal scrub.

Features*:

Rhizome short, erect, bearing dark brown subulate scales up to 15 × 2 mm. Stipes 50-150 mm long, brown below, green above, covered in subulate to narrowly triangular scales with long filiform apices. Laminae relatively short and broad, elliptic, 100-250 × 70-200 mm, dark green, leathery or very thick and fleshy, slightly stiff and upright, bi- to tripinnate. Raches green, scaly, prominently ridged. Pinnae 7-15 pairs, those at the base ovate, those above very narrowly ovate, acute, stalked, 30-100 × 5-30 mm, covered on underside in tiny scales. Upper pinnules linear, acute, entire and sessile; lower pinnules ovate to elliptic and pinnatifid, up to 20 × 10 mm. Sori submarginal, 2-7 mm long.

Flowering:

Not applicable - spore producing

Fruiting:

Not applicable - spore producing

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (3 February 2005): Description from: Brownsey (1977)

References and further reading:

Brownsey, P.J. 1977: A taxonomic revision of the New Zealand species of *Asplenium*. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 15: 39-86.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1519



Caption: Moa Point, Wellington

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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