



Asplenium haurakiense

Common Name(s):

Hauraki Gulf Spleenwort

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand, Three Kings Islands, Northern North Island to Waitakere Coastline in the west and Whale (Moutohora) Island in the east

Habitat:

Strictly coastal. Mostly terrestrial, growing in exposed or sheltered sites, often in positions subject to salt spray, also in petrel scrub and on small offshore islands it frequently grows around petrel burrows in dense forest.

Features*:

Mostly terrestrial. Rhizome short, stout, erect, bearing dark brown ovate scales with very thick cell walls, up to 20 × 2 mm. Stipes 50-200 mm (or more) long, brown on underside, green above, firm and erect, sparingly covered in small ovate scales with very thick walls. Laminae oblong to elliptic, 100-400 (or more) × 40-200 mm, ± dull or more often glossy green, thick, leathery, stiff and erect, pinnate to bipinnate. Raches green, sparingly scaly. Pinnae in 5-20 (or more) pairs, linear to narrowly ovate, acuminate, long stalked, 20-150 × 5-20 mm; degree of dissection very variable, sometimes only divided into very short obtuse segments, sometimes pinnate. Pinnules oblong and obtuse to linear and acute, up to 8 × 2 mm. Basal acroscopic pinnule frequently much longer than that next to it, up to 40 mm long, and itself pinnatifid. Sori submarginal, linear, 2-7 mm long. Spores (38-)43-49(-54) micrometre long, (20-)26-31(-38) micrometre wide



Caption: Motuokino, Coromandel
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: At Motuokino, Coromandel
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

Flowering:

Not applicable - spore producing

Fruiting:

Not Applicable - Spore Producing (Healthy plants produce spores throughout the year)

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Description modified 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.

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

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