



## *Centrolepis pallida*

### Common Name(s):

Centrolepis

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North (Central Volcanic Plateau, and Ruahine Range), South (Otago, Southland and Fiordland), Auckland and Campbell Islands

### Habitat:

Montane to alpine in bogs descending to near sea level in the subantarctic islands.

### Features\*:

Dense, pale or bright green, moss-like cushions. Roots comparatively thick, but < 0.5 mm diameter. Stems 15–40 mm long. Leaves 6–9 mm long, < 0.5 mm wide, distichous, equitant at the base, closely imbricate up the stem, lamina stiff, erect, glabrous, subulate, laterally compressed or occasionally channelled, narrowed to an acute or occasionally shortly acicular tip; leaf-sheaths c. 1/2 length of lamina, very pale cream, membranous, without ligule or auricles. Flowering stems about equal leaves in length. Floral bracts 2, ± opposite, unequal in length, the lower larger. Pseudanthia, 1 in each floral bract, or 1 bract without pseudanthium; male 1 only, in the lowermost pseudanthium, at maturity the filament elongated excessively and the anther far exserted; female 1–3(-4) in each pseudanthium; hyaline scales 0. Seed ± 0.5 mm long, oblong-obovate, apiculate at one end. Micron test: μ

### Flowering:

December – January

### Fruiting:

January - March

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 August 2006. Description adapted from Moore & 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 11: 285-309

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1654](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1654)



**Caption:** Mangatepopo, December

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth