



Pterostylis brumalis

Common Name(s):

kauri greenhood, winter greenhood

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island from Te Paki to Kawhia Harbour and the northern Kaimai Ranges. Most common north of Thames and Auckland City.

Habitat:

Coastal to lower montane. Virtually confined to forests dominated by kauri (*Agathis australis* (D. Don). Lindl.) where it prefers shaded sites, and usually grows in kauri leaf litter and leaf mould, often directly beneath the trunks of this species. It may also grow in gumland scrub but usually then only in association with rotting kauri stumps or subfossil kauri leaf and gum deposits.

Features*:

Terrestrial, colony forming, perennial herb. Plants at flowering up to 200 mm tall. Stem bright green often tinged with red, slender, terete, smooth; internodes usually < leaves. Petiolate leaves in separate loose rosettes or at the base the lower part of flowering stem; petiole distinct, up to 10 mm long; leaf lamina 5-12 x 5-12 mm, bright green or green, ovate-orbicular, apex subacute, upper leaf surface smooth. Cauline leaves 2-6, usually closely spaced and aggregated toward top of stem, subsessile to sessile, the lower pair transitional in shape between rosette and mid to upper cauline leaves, 15-40 x 2-8 mm, bright green to green, linear-lanceolate or narrow-elliptic, uppermost leaves usually overtopping ovary but usually falling short of the galea. Flower 1(-2) erect, most white with narrow dark green stripes. Dorsal sepal 15-30 mm tall, apex acuminate, usually down-curved; lateral sepals diverging at a wide angle to form a U or a wide W shape when viewed from the front, the sinus distinctly jugate in side view, tips long-caudate and much overtopping galea. Petals almost as long as dorsal sepal, with a broad, more or less horizontal marginal strip exposed. Labellum narrow-triangular, arched and protruding, apex subacute. Column shorter than labellum; stigma elliptic, slightly prominent.

Flowering:

June - October

Fruiting:

July - November

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

References and further reading:

- Janes, J.K.; Dorothy A. S.; Vaillancourt, R.E.; Duretto, M.F. 2010: A new classification for subtribe Pterostylidinae (Orchidaceae), reaffirming *Pterostylis* in the broad sense. *Australian Systematic Botany* 23: 260-269
- Jones, D.L.; Clements, M.A.; Molloy, B.P.J 2002: A Synopsis of the Subtribe *Pterostylidinae*. *Australian Orchid Research* 4: 129-146.
- Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.
- Szlachekto, D.L. 2001: Genera et Species Orchidaliium 1. *Polish Botanical Journal* 46: 11-26.
- 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=1793



Caption: Long Bay, Coromandel, May

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: Kauri Glen, Northcote, Auckland. Jul 2006.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe