Phlegmariurus varius

Common Name(s):

clubmoss

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. Kermadec (Raoul Island only), Three Kings, North, South, Stewart, Chatham, Antipodes, Campbell and Auckland Islands. Also Australia.

Habitat:

Coastal to subalpine. In forest (usually as an epiphyte), in scrub, often rupestral or in peat bogs

Features*:

Terrestrial, lithophytic or epiphytic plants producing 1-many branches from near base. branches tufted, erect suberect if terrestrial or pendulous if epiphytic, branched 1-many times, 0.08-2.0 m long. Leaves spirally arranged, spreading, angled at 60-90 degrees to axis, linear-lanceolate, acute to subacute, 9-18 mm long, 1-3 mm wide, deep green to yellow-green, sometimes tinged orange; texture and thickness variable; margins entire, often thickened. Transition from sterile to sporogenous zone gradual or abrupt. Sporogenous zone 40-180 mm long, usually 3.5-4.5 mm diameter usually distinct from sterile leaves but sometimes scarcely discernible. Sporophylls variable; linear-lanceolate, spreading, shorter than sterile leaves, to 10 mm long,



Caption: Auckland Island Photographer: Jane Gosden



Caption: Mavora Lakes **Photographer:** Melissa Hutchison

smaller towards apex; or ovate triangular, keeled, in 4-rows, imbricate, appressed, 2.0-2.5 mm long, 1.5-2.0 mm wide. Sporangia occupying one-tenth to the entire length of the sporophyll. Description adapted from Chinnock (1998) and Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

Flowering: Fruiting:

N.A. N.A.

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Factsheet prepared by P.J. de Lange 16 March 2011. Description adapted from Chinnock (1998) and Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

References and further reading:

Brownsey, P.J.; Smith-Dodsworth, J.C. 2000: New Zealand Ferns and Allied Plants. Auckland, David Bateman

Chinnock, R.J. 1998: Lycopodiaceae. Flora of Australia 48: 66-85.

Field, A.R.; Bostock, P.D. 2013: New and existing combinations in Palaeotropical *Phlegmariurus* (Lycopodiaceae) and lectotypification of the type species *Phlegmariurus phlegmaria* (L.) T.Sen & U.Sen. *PhytoKeys* 20: 33–51 (2013) doi: 10.3897/phytokeys.20.4007

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

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