



## *Pteris comans*

### **Common Name(s):**

coastal brake, netted brake

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Indigenous (see Taxonomic Notes). New Zealand: Kermadec Islands (Raoul, the Meyers Islands and Macauley Island), Three Kings and North Island from North Cape to Bay of Plenty in the east and Waitakere coastline in the west

### **Habitat:**

Coastal in forest especially on the sides of gullies, on banks and in valley heads. A very common offshore island fern

### **Features\*:**

Terrestrial ferns. Rhizomes short, erect, scaly. Stipes 0.25-0.6 m long, pale brown, glabrous or scaly at very base. Laminae 0.2-1.8 × 0.15-0.9 m, dark green to yellow-green, 2-3-pinnate at base, ovate, coriaceous, veins reticulate. Pinnae not overlapping; most lower secondary pinnae adnate. Ultimate segments 10-55 × 5-10 mm, oblong, apices tapering or bluntly pointed, margins toothed. Sori continuous along pinna margins on a marginal vein, protected by a membranous inrolled pinna margins.

### **Flowering:**

Not applicable - spore producing

### **Fruiting:**

Not applicable - spore producing

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Fact sheet [repared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (17 January 2012). Description adapted from Brownsey & Smith-Dodsworth (2000).

### **References and further reading:**

Allan, H.H. 1961: New Zealand Flora. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.

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

de Lange, P.J.; Norton, D.A.; Courtney, S.P.; Heenan, P.B.; Barkla, J.W.; Cameron, E.K.; Hitchmough, R.; Townsend, A.J. 2009: Threatened and uncommon plants of New Zealand (2008 revision). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 47: 61-96.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=2231](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2231)



**Caption:** Motuoruhi, Coromandel

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth



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