



Adiantum capillus-veneris

Common Name(s):

European maidenhair

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Distribution:

Naturalised. New Zealand: North Island (Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Bay of Plenty and Wellington).

Habitat:

Mostly urban in shaded sites on concrete and mortar or in wasteland on calcareous substrates. Often on shaded clay banks and overhangs - especially on limestone, calcareous sandstone and other marine sourced sedimentary rocks.

Features*:

Tufted, terrestrial fern. Rhizome short-creeping, suberect, branched, to 5 mm diameter; scales concolorous, yellow-brown, with entire margins. Fronds tufted, to 360 mm long. Stipe to 180 mm long, glossy, glabrous, brittle. Lamina 50-200 × 40-150 mm, light green to yellow-green, 2-3-pinnate, deltoid, delicate, membranous. Pinnae rectangular or elliptic; rachis flexuous, wiry. Pinnules ovate to deltoid, shortly stalked throughout, symmetric and cuneate-flabellate or subdimidiate, glabrous; distal margins irregularly and deeply lobed, denticulate when sterile; stalks not articulated; veins red-brown near junction with stalk, otherwise pale. Sori 1-10 along distal margins, 1 or 2 per lobe; soral flaps oblong to subreniform, not or scarcely indented into lamina margin, glabrous. Spores 64 per sporangium pale brown; perine scabrous; largest diameter (43-)48.1(-60) microns.

Flowering:

N.A. Spore producing

Fruiting:

N.A. Spore producing

*Attribution:

Fact sheet Prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (Updated 9 March 2014). Description adapted from Bostock (1998).

References and further reading:

Bostock, P.D. 1998: Adiantaceae. Flora of Australia 48: 248-263.

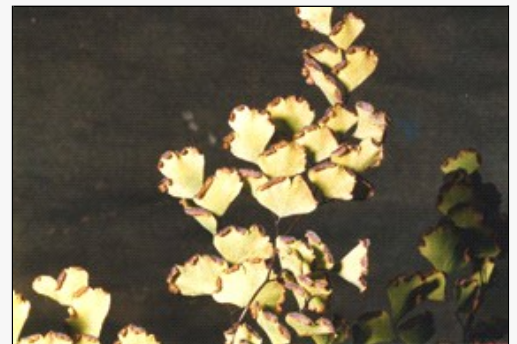
For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2424



Caption: *Adiantum capillus-veneris*

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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