



Arachniodes aristata

Common Name(s):

None known

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Indigenous. In New Zealand known only from Raoul Island. Also recorded from Asia, Australia and the Pacific Islands

Habitat:

Common on Raoul Island within dry, usually shaded lowland forest, where it grows amongst sparsely vegetated leaf litter.

Features:

Stout terrestrial fern of the forest floor. Rhizomes long-creeping, scaly. Stipes 0.2-0.86 m long, stiff and wiry, scaly, particularly near the base. Frond lamina broadly ovate, deltoid to 5-angled, 3-pinnate, 0.3-0.8 x 0.2-0.5 m, dark glossy green above, paler beneath, harshly textured, midribs scaly, Primary pinnae long-stalked, narrowly ovate above, ovate below, the longest at base. Basal basiscopic secondary pinna on each basal primary pinna greatly enlarged. Ultimate segments acutely toothed.

Flowering:

Not applicable - spore producing

Fruiting:

Not applicable - spore producing

Threats:

Not threatened. Listed only because it is known in the New Zealand Botanical Region from the one location, Raoul Island.

References and further reading:

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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=368



Caption: Raoul Island.

Photographer: Peter de Lange



Caption: A fungus, *Taphrina cornucervi* on *Arachniodes aristata* (bottom right). Raoul Island.

Photographer: Sue Lake