Bartramia alaris

Common Name(s):

Moss

Current Threat Status (2009):

Data Deficient

Distribution:

Indigenous. North Island, Hawkes Bay (Havelock North).

Features*:

Gracile, tufted, terricolous yellow-green moss of open ground. Stems 10-20 mm tall, simple, slightly radiculose below, densely foliate. Leaves 4.0-4.5 mm long suberect, flexuose when dry but neither crisped nor strict; slightly incurved when moist; from a very short deltoid-triangular base gradually narrowed to a linear-subulate subula, with an robust apex; margins throughout narrowly revolute, bistratose above, spinulose-dentate in two or more rows. Nerve 50-60 microns wide, subequal throughout, projecting dorsally, excurrent, serrate on the back towards the apex. Upper cells 7-10 microns long, very shortly rectangular or subquadrate, obscure and papillose; lower cells in the dilated base pale, empty, narrowly linear; those at the angles laxer, forming a small and distinct but not clearly defined alar group; those at the insertion orange-yellow. Fruits not yet seen.

Fruiting:

Not yet seen

Threats:

Unknown. This species has been collected only once in 1929 from pasture at Havelock North (Hawkes Bay) and it has not been seen since though no one has specifically searched for it either (see Glenny et al. 2011).

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (1 October 2007). Description adapted from Sainsbury (1955).

References and further reading:

Glenny, D.; Fife, A.J.; Brownsey, P.J.; Renner, M.A.M.; Braggins, J.E.; Beever, J.E.; Hitchmough, R. 2011: Threatened and uncommon bryophytes of New Zealand (2010 Revision). New Zealand Journal of Botany 49: 305-327.

Sainsbury, G.O.K. 1955: A handbook of the New Zealand mosses. Royal Society of New Zealand Bulletin 5.

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