



Riccardia intercellula

Common Name(s):

Liverwort

Current Threat Status (2009):

Threatened - Nationally Critical

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island, Glasgow Range

Features*:

Monoicous. Thallus pale green, flaccid, creeping 7-10 mm long, 691-860 microns wide with rounded apices. Growth indeterminate, branching alternate to subopposite with simple pinnate development except where a side branch shows continued development. Mucilage papillae dorsal and ventral 100-200 x 16-25 microns, persisting on both surfaces. Rhizoids present on the ventral surface, stolons and gemmae not observed. Axis plano-convex with an acute unwinged margin., thallus 147-163 microns thick; cell walls thin to very slightly thickened and cells of the ventral epidermis and 1-2 underlying layers of less depth than those overlying them. Thalli epidermal cell walls lightly rugose. Dorsal epidermal cells hexagonally elongate, 102 x 25 microns, and 21 microns deep. Ventral epidermal cells all similar 77 x 18 microns, and 21 microns deep. Dorsal subepidermal cells all similar 122 x 34 microns. Ventral subepidermal cells all similar 103 x 26 microns. Internal cells 38 microns deep. Oil-bodies 1-2 brown, granular and ellipsoidal oil-bodies per cell, 13 x 8 microns, common in young growth, less frequent in older. Endophytic mycorrhizae 3-5 microns wide, present in interstices of the 2-3 layers of smaller ventral cells. Male and female branches alternating. Male branches solitary or branched, mostly arising from the main axis, sessile, bearing 1-3 pairs of antheridia. Female branches solitary, positioned like male, with 2-3 pairs of archegonia. Calyptra little known. Sporophyte unknown.

Fruiting:

Although fruit has been seen insufficient information exists to provide any details on the timing of fruiting

Threats:

Known only from the type gathering. Exact threats not clear but evidently a very uncommon plant.

***Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (27 August 2006). Description adapted from Brown & Braggins (1989).

References and further reading:

Brown, E.A.; Braggins, J.E. 1989: A revision on the genus *Riccardia* S.F. Gray in New Zealand with notes on the genus *Aneura* Dum. *Journal of the Hattori Botanical Laboratory* 66: 1-132.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4980