



Riccardia umida

Common Name(s):

Liverwort

Current Threat Status (2009):

Threatened - Nationally Critical

Distribution:

Endemic. Campbell Island

Features*:

Dioicous. Thallus small, light green and creeping. Growth indeterminate, branching alternate to subopposite and simply pinnate to slightly bipinnate. Thalli c.5-10 mm long, 225-310 microns wide. Apices rounded. Mucilage papillae or papillae-like cells 18-170 x 15-29 microns, persisting dorsally and ventrally though less pronounced on ventral surface, sometimes sparse on both surfaces. Rhizoids ventral. Stolons and gemmae not seen. Axis plano- to biconvex with subacute to rounded margins, thallus 110-155 microns, and 7-8 cells thick; cell walls thin to slightly thickened with cell depths even throughout thallus. Epidermal cell walls lacking ornamentation. Dorsal epidermal cells tending to be rectangular to hexagonally elongate 21-91 x 11-28 microns, and 13-25 microns deep. Ventral epidermal cells hexagonally elongate to approximately isodiametric, 32-148 x 16-31 microns, and 13-26 microns deep. Ventral subepidermal cells similar, 32-70 x 21-28 microns. Internal cells 11-29 microns deep. Oil-bodies: epidermal cells with (0-)3 pale brown, granular, spherical to slightly ellipsoidal oil-bodies, 4-10 x 3-8 microns. Subepidermal oil-bodies (0-)6, similar but slightly longer. Endophytic mycorrhizae inconspicuous. Male branches solitary or branched, arising from main axis, sessile; antheridial cavities in 1-3 pairs on dorsal surface; separated by 2 or more cells. Female branches short, solitary, on the main axis with 1-2 pairs of archegonia. Calyptra and sporophyte unknown.

Fruiting:

Fruits not known

Threats:

Known only from the type gathering. Probably not threatened. However, it has not been collected since 1987. Campbell Island, its only known location is a Nature Reserve and part of a World Heritage Park.

***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=4982