



Plagiochila hatcheri

Common Name(s):

Liverwort

Current Threat Status (2009):

Data Deficient

Distribution:

Endemic. Stewart Island: Ulva Island (Patersons Inlet)

Features:

Pale yellowish brown plants with erect leafy shoots arising from a horizontal leafless axis; shoots medium, to 2.8 mm wide. Branching frequent, the branches all lateral-intercalary, innovations mostly from axis of involucreal leaves; stolons at times arising from near bases of branches. Stems wiry, pale brown, cortical cells in 3-4 layers. Leaves widely spreading, often at right angles to stem, slightly ventrally second, more or less horizontal; leaves broadly and asymmetrically ovate, widest subbasally; apex rounded to subacute, sharply toothed, teeth not notably larger than those of ventral margin; dorsal margin narrowly and sharply recurved, more or less straight, with 1 or more sharp teeth in distal half, becoming narrowly revolute at base and filling insertion; ventral margin moderately curved in distal portion, distinctly ampliate at base, toothed to the apex, the base truncate, entire, shortly decurrent. Marginal teeth coarse, narrowly acuminate from broad base, 2-3 cells wide at base, the uniseriate row 3-5 cells long. Underleaves vestigial consisting of 1 or more filiform cell clusters. Cells of median portion of leaf with trigones everywhere very large, strongly nodulose-triradiate, lumen surrounded by trigones with intervening thin-walled places, cells more or less isodiametric, 22-99 x 24-30 microns; median basal cells larger and elongated, forming a short, broad basal field; leaf margins without differentiated border, wall thickenings similar to those of median cells, cuticle smooth. Male plants not seen. Gynoecia at apices of main shoot and lateral-intercalary branches; bracts of innermost series asymmetrically narrowly ovate, the dorsal margin entire or with a tooth near the apex, ventral margin with larger teeth like those of leaves. Perianth obovate, broadest at mouth; mouth broadly rounded, laciniate, the teeth crowded, slenderly acuminate to subcaudate, ending in a uniseriate row of up to 6 cells long. Sporophytes not seen.

Fruiting:

Unknown

Threats:

Plagiochila hatcheri is still only known only from the type gathering which came from Ulva Island a secure Nature Reserve. It has not been seen there recently.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4990