



Plagiochila pacifica

Common Name(s):

Liverwort

Current Threat Status (2009):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Kermadec Islands, Raoul Island

Features:

Plants bright emerald green, large, 40–60 mm long, 8.0–8.5 mm wide with leaves, not glossy, sparingly branched, branching exclusively lateral-intercalary, arising from a creeping rhizome; stem about 450–500 microns in diameter; rhizoids numerous on rhizomes; stem surface partially exposed. Leaves moderately to closely imbricate, oblong-ovate, 3.8–4.3 mm long, 1.9–2.1 mm wide, dorsal leaf base moderately decurrent, margin somewhat recurved, apex subacute, ventral margin arched, sac recurved, entire or with 2 or 3 teeth, moderately decurrent at base; whole leaf margin dentate, teeth 3–6 cells long, 2 or 3 cells wide at base, terminal cell slightly elongated; subapical and median cells 20–23 x 22–24 microns, basal cells 24–27 x 45–60 microns, trigones small, walls moderately thickened throughout, cuticle smooth.

Underleaves vestigial. Male plants not seen. Gynoecia terminal, with 1 or 2 innovations, bracts small, perianth obovoid, 4.3 mm long, 2.1 mm wide, keels unwinged. Sporophyte unknown.

Fruiting:

Unknown

Threats:

A widespread and abundant species which is listed only because it is endemic to Raoul Island.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4991



Caption: Raoul Island. May 2011.

Photographer: Peter de Lange



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