



Blindia seppeltii

Common Name(s):

moss

Current Threat Status (2009):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Auckland, Campbell and Macquarie Islands.

Features*:

Autoicous moss up to 60 mm long, glossy, yellow-brown to olive-green when terrestrial, dark-brown to black when aquatic, forming mats or cushions. Stems with thick-walled outer stem cells, central strand present. Leaves erect-flexuose to falcate-secund, similar to spreading-erect when moist, lamina 5.0-8.0 mm long from an oblong-lanceolate base, more or less gradually narrowed to a long slender subula, acute, subula at least 2-3x as long as lamina; margins entire; nerve 40-100 microns wide, well defined, filling the subula. Upper cells 25-100 x 6-10 microns, rectangular-elongate, thick-walled, clear and distinct. Lower cells 35-120 x 6-10 microns, rectangular-elongate, thick-walled, clear and distinct. Alar cells 20-40 x 10-18 microns, not or poorly differentiated, rectangular-oblong, mostly hyaline, thin-walled, basal cells decurrent. Perichaetial leaves broader near base and quickly narrowed to subula. Seta 5.0-13.0 mm long, variable in length, very stout, thick, usually rigid, flexuose to erect when moist and dry, brown to black. Capsules 1.0 x 1.0 mm, small hemispheric-obovate when moist, when old turbinate to obconic, rarely hemispheric, black, variably exserted, Exothecial cells 20-50 x 10-25 microns, elliptic to narrowly rectangular, most longer than wide, thick-walled, pachydermous, rim cells quadrate-rounded, not oblate. Stomates not seen. Peristome of 16, lanceolate, a cute teeth, well-developed, fragile and often missing on old capsules. Operculum conic rostrate, beak more or less oblique. Spores 16-40 microns.

Fruiting:

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

Threats:

Not Threatened. Listed because it is a naturally uncommon, range restricted species.

***Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (6 November 2007). Description adapted from Bartlett & Vitt (1986).

References and further reading:

Bartlett, J.K.; Vitt, D. H. 1986: A survey of the species in the genus *Blindia* (Bryopsida, Seligeriaceae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 24: 203-246.

de Lange, P.J.; Rolfe, J.R. 2010: New Zealand Indigenous Vascular Plant Checklist. Wellington, New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. 164pp.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=5042