



## *Pterostylis alveata*

### Common Name(s):

Mountain Green Hood

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Non Resident Native - Coloniser

### Distribution:

Indigenous. North and South Island, northern North West Nelson area. In February 2006 it was recorded at one site in the Hutt Valley. Present in Australia.

### Habitat:

Known in New Zealand from open kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides* (A.Rich.) Joy Thomps. shrubland where it grows on clay and sandy soils.

### Features\*:

Terrestrial orchid of open sites on clay or sand. Flowering plants up to 300 mm tall. Stem scabrid. Rosette leaves 3-5, 20-60 x 10-15 mm, ovate, elliptic to obovate, often rather distantly spaced on basal portion of stem, sessile, margins entire. Upper stem leaves rather bractae, lanceolate, erect, and strongly stem clasping. Flower 30 mm long, erect, dark green striped white, apex of galea flat or slightly decurved; dorsal sepal acute to subacute, with a long, fine apiculus; lateral sepals erect, loosely embracing galea leaving a distinct lateral gap, sinus broadly notched when viewed from the front, protruding prominently in an abrupt curve when viewed from the side, free points 20 mm long, linear-tapered, reflexed behind galea; petals broad, subacute. Labellum 13-18 x 3 mm, narrowly ovate-lanceolate to obtuse, dark brown, erect, curved forwards near middle, subacute with distal third projecting from the sinus in the set position.

### Flowering:

January - April

### Fruiting:

March - June

### Threats:

Possibly the target of orchid collectors. However only recently (late 1990s) discovered in New Zealand and still poorly known. A recent (2006) find in Wellington suggests that either this species has been overlooked or it is still expanding its range. Not serious threats are known.

### \*Attribution:

Fact Prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (17 April 2007).  
Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

### References and further reading:

Janes, J.K.; Dorothy A. S.; Vaillancourt, R.E.; Duretto, M.F. 2010: A new classification for subtribe Pterostylidinae (Orchidaceae), reaffirming *Pterostylis* in the broad sense. *Australian Systematic Botany* 23: 260-269

Jones, D.L.; Clements, M.A.; Molloy, B.P.J 2002: A Synopsis of the Subtribe *Pterostylidinae*. *Australian Orchid Research* 4: 129-146.

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

Szlachekto, D.L. 2001: Genera et Species Orchidaliium 1. *Polish Botanical Journal* 46: 11-26.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=726](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=726)



**Caption:** *Diplodium alveatum*  
**Photographer:** Ian St George



**Caption:** Tauranga  
**Photographer:** Eric Scanlen