

A Check List of New Zealand Charophyta

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Abstract

A list of 18 charophytes recorded in New Zealand is given, together with their distributions in New Zealand as at present known

HOOKEr, in the Handbook of the New Zealand Flora (1867) recorded five charophytes from New Zealand, and later Nordstedt (1880), in describing and recording those collected in 1874-75 by Berggren, brought the number up to twelve. Since then there have been a number of collections and a few other species have been recorded. The records, however, are not easily accessible to most New Zealand botanists. This paper, therefore, provides a list of all charophyte species and varieties for which there are known published records for New Zealand.

Wood's list (1952) has for the most part been used in deciding the approved modern name. Under each accepted name is given the first record of a collection for New Zealand. This is under the heading "Original Collection" when it is the first record for the taxon. If there is further information there is also given the present known distribution for New Zealand as shown by published records and collections examined by the writer. It should be noted that where New Zealand or North Island is given in the first record it is sometimes clear, or highly probable, that only one or two collections were known, and in no case can such a name in a first record be safely taken as necessarily indicating a widespread distribution.

CHECK LIST

- 1 **Nitella conformis**, Nordstedt
Original record: Nordstedt (1880: 18); Lake Pearson, Canterbury
- 2 **N. hookeri**, Braun var **hookeri**
Original record: Braun (1849: 199); New Zealand and Kerguelen Island.
N Z Distribution: Widespread.
N. hookeri, Braun, var. **attenuata**, Nordstedt
Original record: Nordstedt (1889: 14), Ohaewai, in Bay of Islands
N. hookeri, Braun, var. **microcephala**, Nordstedt
Original record: Nordstedt (1880: 19); Otua River, between Bay of Islands and Hokianga.
- 3 **N. hyalina**, (DC) Agardh var. **novae-zelandiae**, Braun
Original record: Braun in Hochstetter (1863: 112); Lake Pupuke, Takapuna.
N Z Distribution: Widespread.
- 4 **N. leonhardii**, Wood
Original record: *N. interrupta*, Braun ex Leonhardi (1863: 146) as *sp. ined.*
Presumably the specimens recorded by Leonhardi came from the Waikato River as they were collected by the Novara Expedition (Nordstedt 1880: 20), and the only specimens of this species collected by that expedition seem to be those of Jelinek, 1859, from the "Waikate River" (Braun and Nordstedt 1882: 93).
N Z Distribution. North of latitude 39°, North Island. In the Westport district, South Island

5. **N. leptosoma**, Nordstedt
Original record: Nordstedt (1880: 17), Omatangi, Taupo.
6. **N. mucosa** (Nordstedt) J Groves
Original record: *N. pseudoflabellata*, Braun f. *mucosa*, Nordstedt; Nordstedt (1880: 16); Waitangi, Bay of Islands; Tauranga.
N.Z. Distribution: North of latitude 38°, North Island.
7. **N. stuartii**, Braun
First N.Z. record: Nordstedt (1888: 181); Te Whau (Thames Goldfields)
N.Z. Distribution: Thames District and near Kaitaia.
8. **N. tricellularis**, (Nordstedt) Nordstedt in T. F. Allen
Original Record: *N. translucens* (Pers.) Ag subsp. *tricellularis*, Nordstedt, Nordstedt (1880: 15); Lake Pearson, Canterbury
N.Z. Distribution: Lakes in the region of the middle Waimakariri River
9. **Lamprothamnion macropogon**, (Braun) Ophel
First N.Z. record: *Chara macropogon*, Braun; J. Groves and G O Allen (1935: 54); New Zealand
N.Z. Distribution: Wellington to Timaru, in coastal lagoons
10. **Chara australis**, R. Br var. **australis**
First N.Z. record: *C australis*, R. Br., Braun in Hooker (1860: 159), New Zealand. This record precedes the recognition of the varieties of *C australis* and should it prove to have been based on another variety described later (though there seems no reason to suppose it was), the first record for New Zealand of *C australis*, var. *australis* will be.
C. australis, R. Br var *nobilis*, Braun, Braun and Nordstedt (1882: 105); New Zealand.
N.Z. Distribution: Widespread in the North Island
C. australis, R. Br. var **vieillardii**, Braun
First N.Z. record: Nordstedt (1889: 32); New Zealand
N.Z. Distribution: Possibly widespread
11. **C. braunii**, Gmelin
Only N.Z. record: J Groves (1924: 327), New Zealand
12. **C. contraria**, Braun ex Kutzing var **behriana**, Braun
First N.Z. record: *C contraria* Hooker (1867: 550), North Island
13. **C. fibrosa**, Ag ex Bruzelius subsp. **gymnopitys**, (Braun) Zaneveld var **acanthopitys** (Braun) Zaneveld
First N.Z. record: *C benthami*, Braun, Nordstedt (1880: 20), Lake Tarawera, Auckland Province.
N.Z. Distribution: Lake Tarawera and northwards to Mangonui County, Lake Ianthe, Lake Sarah, and Bruce Bay in the South Island.
14. **C. globularis**, Thuillier var. **capillacea** (Thuillier) Zaneveld
First N.Z. record: *C. fragilis*, Desv., Nordstedt (1880: 20), Lake Tarawera
N.Z. Distribution: Widespread.
15. **C. vulgaris**, Vaillant ex Linnaeus
First N.Z. record: *C foetida*, Braun; Hooker (1867: 550), North Island. Apparently this record is based on one poor specimen scarcely determinable with certainty. Braun and Nordstedt (1882: 162)

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* Not seen, reference taken from quotations in Zaneveld and from Nordstedt, 1880.