

Wednesday February 10: GRASS WORKSHOP,

Led by Professor Alan Mark, of the Botany Department, University of Otago.

In the University Botany Dept. Advanced Lab (enter from Cumberland St, down the drive behind the Otago Museum), 7:30 pm.

The emphasis will be on native grasses. There will be some introduction to the basics of grass identification, so the workshop should be suitable for the novice as well as the more experienced. Grass specimens will be provided, though members are welcome to bring their own if they wish.

Dunedin Naturalists Field Club meetings

November 14: Excursion to Beaumont Forest.

November 16: Dr Fordyce speaks on Antarctica, also AGM at Gardens Visitor Education Centre.

November 28: Excursion to Shag Point.

December 12: Excursion to Maungatua.

A KEY TO THE GENERA OF NEW ZEALAND FERNS
AND ALLIED PLANTS

National Museum of N.Z. Miscellaneous Series no. 15

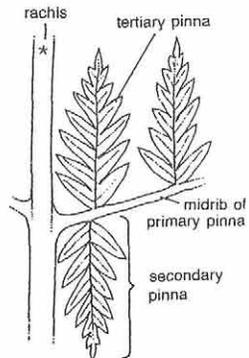
Text by P.J. Brownsey,

Illustrations by T.N.H. Galloway

Reviewed here by Alison Evans

This publication is a guide to the 66 genera of ferns and fern allies of the New Zealand botanical region.

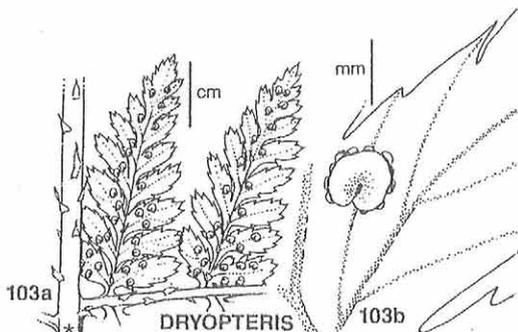
In addition to the seven dichotomous keys there are numerous excellent illustrations. The concise glossary consists of 38 entries, each of which is complemented by one or more clear line drawings. (It's so much more



TRIPINNATE FROND

helpful to have a drawing of a pinnate, a bipinnate and a tripinnate frond, as well as a definition.)

Each genus too is illustrated by a representative species chosen as an example of diagnostic characters used in the key. the specific examples (92 in all) are clear and well annotated.



The keys are arranged in a logical hierarchy that first distinguishes true ferns from fern allies, second the genera of fern allies, third anomalous fern genera, and then there are four keys to other genera grouped according to the degree of division of their fronds.

The layout is easy to follow and bold face for key headings and generic names assists scanning.

Although a nomenclatural reference is given, a list of generic synonyms somewhere in the key would have been helpful.

Modest size (31 pp, 180 X 250 mm) recommends the booklet as a comfortable field companion.

The price of \$5.95 (including GST and postage) is discounted to \$5.50 for a minimum of 10 copies and \$5.00 per copy for 50 or more. Orders should be addressed to the Librarian, National Museum, Private Bag, Wellington, and cheques made payable to the National Museum of N.Z.