

Bactrospora metabola

COMMON NAME

Fly's Graveyard Lichen

FAMILY

Roccellaceae

AUTHORITY

Bactrospora metabola (Nyl.) Egea & Torrente

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Inconspicuous white crustose lichen with black wavy margin. Surface covered in small dish-shaped black, fruiting bodies.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands. Also known from Australia (Tasmania), the Andaman Islands, New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea.

HABITAT

Corticolous on the bark of *Cordyline* spp., *Hoheria* spp., *Kunzea* spp., *Metrosideros* spp., *Pseudopanax* spp., and conifers such as *Dacrydium cupressinum*. Often co-habiting with other crustose taxa such as *Bactrospora arthonioides*, *Chiodecton colensoi* and species of *Arthonia*, *Opegrapha* and *Thelotrema*

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Corticolous, crustose lichen. **Thallus** white, spreading, continuous to areolate forming patches 20–100 mm diameter; generally delimited by a wavy, black prothallus, with the surface covered in scattered, rounded, semi-immersed to adnate or sessile apothecia (constricted at base). **Apothecia** black, epruinose, convex and usually immarginate. Internally, apothecia bearing dichotomously branched paraphysoids; these loosely interlaced and with few or no anastomoses. **Asci** broadly pyriform. **Ascospores** colourless, muriform ascospores (*homalotropa*-type). **Chemistry**: No chemistry detected.

SIMILAR TAXA

Differs from other *Bactrospora* by the ascospores which are muriform at maturity (up to 27 transversely septate), of the *Homalotropa*-type, 55-110 × 8-14 µm.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange (19 August 2021). Brief description and similar taxa sections based on Galloway (1985, 2007) but updated.



REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Galloway D.J. 1985: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens*. Wellington: PD Hasselberg, Government Printer. 662 pp.
- Galloway D.J. 2007: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens, including lichen-forming and lichenicolous fungi*. 2nd edition. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press. 2261 pp.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/bactrospora-metabola/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/bactrospora-metabola/>