

Cladonia corniculata

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cladonia corniculata Ahti & Kashiw.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Fruticose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Karikari Peninsula, Kawerua, Kaikohe, Anawhata), Auckland (Waitakere Ranges), South Auckland (Hunua Ranges, Moehau Coromandel Ranges, Te Aroha), Hawke's Bay (Lake Tutira), Wellington (Ohakune, Totara Reserve Pohangina Valley, Pahiatua Track Tararua Ranges, Akitio, Wellington). **South Island:** Nelson (Kaiteriteri, d'Urville River, Lake Rotoiti), Westland (Greymouth, Fox Glacier, Ross, Haast), Marlborough (Hapuka River, Kaikoura), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Ashley Gorge, Black Birch Stream Mt Cook), Otago (Haast Pass, Canyon Creek Ahuriri Valley, Whitbourn Flats, Dart Valley, Paradise, Alexandra, Deep Stream, Horse Ranges, Silver Peaks, Mt Cargill, Flagstaff, Saddle Hill, Owaka), Southland (Fortrose, Seaward Bush, Awarua Bay, Sandy Point, Greenhills, Riverton Bush, Waikoau River, Lillburn Valley, Cascade Creek) **Stewart Island:** (Mt Anglem, Freshwater River, Fright Cove Port Pegasus).

Also SE Asia, in Australia, Macquarie Island, Central and South America, and the Falkland Islands

HABITAT

Throughout, common and often abundant on peaty and clay soils, decaying logs in forest or open grassland, and roadside banks, *Leptospermum* heaths, s.l. to 1000 m, both in shade and in full sun.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Primary squamules persistent or often sparse and disappearing, small, upper surface whitish-glaucous to blackening, lower surface white. **Podetia** growing from upper surface of primary squamules, tall and slender, 30-100 mm tall and to 3.5 mm diam., cylindrical, without cups, or with antler-like and irregular proliferations, or with irregular cups formed by circles of long proliferations, rarely corticate at base (1-2 mm), otherwise entirely decorticate, farinose-sorediate, white to ashy or pale glaucous, or brownish. **Apothecia** rare, sessile, on margins of cups or on marginal stalks or on tips of podetia, dark brown, or reddish-brown.

Chemistry: Cortex K-, C-, KC-, Pd+ red; containing fumarprotocetraric acid (major), protocetraric acid (tr.), \pm stictic acid (major), constictic acid (tr.), and norstictic acid (tr.).



Local on cut clay bank, Hunua Auckland.
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SIMILAR TAXA

Cladonia corniculata is distinguished from the morphologically similar *C. weymouthii* by the ecorticate base of the podetia and the Pd+ red reaction. Sometimes parasitised by *Diploschistes muscorum* spp. *bartlettii*. Earlier collections of *C. corniculata* from New Zealand were labelled as *C. subulata* and subsequently changed. However, these should be rechecked because both species occur in New Zealand. *C. corniculata* is distinct from *C. subulata* by (1) the presence of moderate branching, usually 1/2 to 2/3 of the way up the length of the podetium; (2) blunt tips; (3) the absence of cups. *C. subulata* does not branch, and has blunt or acute tips upon proliferations that often (but not always) arise from cup margins

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (15 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985) & Galloway (2007).

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.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cladonia-corniculata/>