

# Cladonia enantia

## FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

## AUTHORITY

Cladonia enantia Nyl.

## 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 (Cuvier Island), Wellington (Ohau Valley Tararua Ranges) throughout. **South Island:** Nelson to Canterbury (Port Hills) Otago (Trotter's Gorge), Southland (Astronomer's Point Dusky Sound, Longwood Range).

Also in Australia where it is rather uncommon.

## HABITAT

On soil in forests E and W of Main Divide, on roadside banks, in *Leptospermum* heath and on coastal banks. It is common along pathways, and a very exuberant rather fragile form looking like a fenestrate *Siphula* is sometimes met with in damp grass and moss. Basal squamules are often well-developed in coastal, northern habitats.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Primary squamules** persistent, large, 2-5(-10) mm long and 1-5 mm wide, cuneate to sublinear, margins crenate-ragged, sinuate, irregularly laciniate-pectinate, flat or convex, ascending, aggregated or crowded-caespitose, **upper surface** whitish-glaucous or pale olive-yellowish-glaucous. **Lower surface** white, brown-black at base, esorediate, or margins and lower surface farinose-sorediate. **Podetia** arising from margins and upper surface of primary squamules, 3-12(-17) mm tall, 0.4-0.5 mm diam., subcylindrical or angular, without cups, terminated by apothecia, simple or fastigiate-branched, branches suberect, laterally fissured, fissures striate, often aggregated, erect, corticate, not, or rarely squamulose, axils open or closed. Cortex areolate-verrucose, areolae continuous or dispersed, 0.1-0.5 mm wide, esorediate, opaque, impellucid, whitish-glaucous. **Apothecia** at tips of podetia, often supported on short, cartilaginous stalks, rarely at margins of squamules 0.8-4.0 mm diam., solitary, entire or lobate-perforate, subpeltate, at first plane and marginate, soon becoming convex, glomerulate and immarginate, pale to dark brown, red-brown or brown-black.

**Chemistry:** Cortex K+ faint yellow, C-, KC-, Pd+ red. Fumarprotocetraric, succinprotocetraric and protocetraric acids and atranorin (tr.).



On basalt rock boulders, Mt Eden, Auckland.  
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:  
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### **SIMILAR TAXA**

*Cladonia enantia* is often found sterile in clumps or mats of basal squamules. It differs chemically from *C. neozelandica*, its podetia are shorter, less fissured, not squamulose, ribbed-striate and it has multiple, fastigiate-branched apices with convex black fruits. As well, the basal squamules are larger, more crenate-ragged than those of *C. neozelandica*.

### **SUBSTRATE**

Terricolous

### **ATTRIBUTION**

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (20 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-enantia/>