

Cladonia ochrochlora

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cladonia ochrochlora Flörke

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

One of the most commonly collected species of the genus in New Zealand. *C. ochrochlora* is a variable species. Podetia usually cup-forming though cups may not form in immature specimens. Cups are corticate in the interior and often on the exterior surface as well, generally with \pm angular edges. Soredia farinose to quite large and \pm corticate, arising gradually or abruptly in erumpent soralia. Podetia generally not entirely terete, appearing as though grazed by invertebrates.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Kawerua, Great Mercury Island), South Auckland (Shoe Island). **South Island:** Southland (Lake Monowai, Cascade Cove Dusky Sound). **Stewart Island. Auckland Islands. Campbell Island:** (Tucker Cove). Throughout NZ from s.l. to 1200 m.

Known also from Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, North Central and South America, Marion I. and Australia.

HABITAT

A very common and widespread species on rotting logs in beech and in podocarp forest (often ascending trunks of old and decaying trees), in grassland, on fenceposts, on roadside banks.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Primary squamules persistent or disappearing, medium, 2-12 mm long, irregularly lobed, lobes subdigitately crenate to incised, concave or involute, ascending, **upper surface** glaucescent to whitish-glaucous or olive-green, lower surface white, darkening towards base, esorediate or sparingly granular-sorediate below. **Podetia** growing from upper surface of primary squamules, 5-40 mm tall, cylindrical, tapering to \pm recurved tips, without cups and subulate, or with very small cups at tips. **Cortex** continuous or areolate near base and below apothecia, elsewhere decorticate and farinose-sorediate, white or whitish-glaucous or whitish-ashy or olive, dying parts black, with or without podetial squamules. **Apothecia** brown, at tips of podetia or on margins of cups. .

Chemistry: Cortex K-, C-, KC-, Pd+ red; containing fumarprotocetraric acid (major) and protocetraric acid (tr.) with or without physodalic acid (major).

SIMILAR TAXA

C. ochrochlora is distinguished from *C. sarmentosa* and *C. ramulosa* by the presence of farinose soredia. Possibly some specimens in New Zealand may be confused with *C. poecilocladia*. Specimens from Hawai'i are parasitised by the lichenicolous fungus *Opegrapha cladoniicola*, and this fungus should be looked for in New Zealand populations.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, corticolous, lignicolous



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-ochrochlora/>