

Cladonia pleurota

SYNONYMS

Capitularia pleurota

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cladonia pleurota (Flörke) Schaer.

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

The presence of iso-usnic acid and the partly corticate, somewhat bluish scyphose podetia with a somewhat felty cortex distinguish *C. pleurota* from other red-fruited, cup-forming species of *Cladonia* in New Zealand.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Mt Moehau), Gisborne (Napier). **South Island:** Nelson (Balloon Creek), Marlborough (Raglan Range), Westland (upper Otira Valley), Marlborough (Mt Fishtail), Canterbury (E of Lewis Pass, Hanmer, Poulter Valley, Woolshed Hill, Mt Binsler, Black Hills Rakaia Valley, Hooker Valley, Liebig Range, Ben Ohau Range), Otago (Mt Brewster, Cameron Flat Makarora, Canyon Creek Ahuriri Valley, Mt Alta Matukituki Valley, Forgotten River, Key Summit, Park Pass, Mt Minos, Dredgeburn, Turret Head Mt Earnslaw, The Remarkables, Pisa Range, Old Man Range, St Bathans Range, Hawkdun Range, St Marys Range Mt Kyeburn, Mt Pisgah Kakanui Mts, Rock & Pillar Range, Umbrella Mts, Silver Peaks, Mt Charles Otago Peninsula, Maungatua, Blue Lake Garvie Mts, East Dome Garvie Mts), Southland (Pukerau, Makarewa, Seaward Bush, Awarua Bay, Cascade Cove Dusky Sound, Woodrow Burn Murchison Mts, Lake Hauroko, Lake Gunn). **Stewart Island:** (Fright Cove Port Pegasus). **Campbell Island. Antipodes Islands.**

Known also from Great Britain, Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, North, Central and South America, Oceania, Australia, Tasmania, Falkland Is, and Antarctica.

HABITAT

Roadside banks, dry hillsides, peat soils, tussock grassland, dead tussock-bases, *Leptospermum* heath, on moss, rotting logs and sandy soil, s.l. to 2300 m.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Primary squamules persistent or disappearing, small to large, 1-7 × 5 mm, irregularly crenate-incised to lobed, **upper surface** yellowish to olivaceous or pale glaucescent, **lower surface** pale or brownish towards base, esorediate or with scattered granules below. **Podetia** variable, to 40 mm tall, usually much less, cups flaring gradually from base, goblet-shaped, regular and entire, or dentate-proliferate from margins, proliferations with apothecia or rarely with small cups, very occasionally with small cups developed at centre. **Cortex** yellowish to glaucescent, continuous to areolate or verrucose in lower parts, sorediate towards apices and inside; cups, soredia granular. **Apothecia** red, convex, at cup margins.

Chemistry: Cortex K-, KC+ yellow, Pd-. Usnic and porphyritic acids, zeorin and ± bellidiflorin.

SIMILAR TAXA

The granular-sorediate to scaly interior of the cups of *C. pleurota* distinguish it from *C. deformis*, which has farinose-soredia in the interior of its cups.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (10 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-pleurota/>