

# Cladonia pyxidata

## FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

## AUTHORITY

Cladonia pyxidata (L.) Hoffm.

## 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 (Poor Knights Islands), South Auckland (Hunua Range, Mt Maungatwhiri), Taranaki (Mt Taranaki), Wellington (Field Hut Tararua Ranges). **South Island:** Canterbury (Craigieburn Range, Sebastopol), Otago (Canyon Creek Ahuriri Valley, Sugarloaf Saddle Rockburn, Pisa Range, Old Man Range). **Stewart Island:** (Oban, Pegasus Creek, Deceit Peaks). **Campbell Island:** (Camp Cove).

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

## HABITAT

On open ground on banks, thin soils overlying rock, peat soils and *Leptospermum* heaths, sheltered alpine herbfield.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Primary squamules**, persistent, contiguous or dispersed, rarely disappearing, small to medium 2-7(-15) × 4 mm, irregularly lobed or incised, apices rounded, margins crenate or sinuate, ± thick, ascending or appressed, **upper surface** glaucescent to pale olive-green or brownish, **lower surface** white, darkening at base, esorediate. **Podetia** growing from upper surface of primary squamules, 4-10(-60) mm tall, simple or with short, marginal proliferations bearing apothecia, cups flaring gradually from base, turbinate, deep, interior closed and decorticate in part, with small, peltate, glaucous squamules or corticate granules covering interior as well as outer surface, slate grey to olive-green or brownish, cups ± regular, rarely proliferating from margins. **Apothecia** rather rare, small to rather large, at margins of cups, sessile or shortly stalked, brown or red-brown.

**Chemistry:** Cortex K-, C-, KC-, Pd+ red; containing fumarprotocetraric acid (major) and protocetraric acid (tr.).

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Cladonia pyxidata* is similar to *C. chlorophaea* but is distinguished from it by having true corticate granules that are primary in nature being found even in immature cups, the cups are more regular and flare very gradually from the base, becoming almost turbinate. In addition, broken podetia show an orange-coloured stereome. *C. fimbriata* is distinguished from *C. pyxidata* in having wineglass-shaped podetia and farinose soredia.

## 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, 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-pyxidata/>