

Cladonia scabriuscula

SYNONYMS

Cenomyce scabriuscula Delise

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cladonia scabriuscula (Delise) 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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the peeling, ± detached squamules.

DISTRIBUTION

North island: Three Kings Islands, Northland (Great Mercury Island), South Auckland (Hunua Ranges, Taupo), Taranaki (Mt Taranaki), Wellington (Ohakune, Pohangina River). **South Island:** Nelson (St Arnaud Range, Lake Rotoiti, Inangahua), Westland (Cape Foulwind, Greymouth). Canterbury (Hanmer, Foggy Peak Torlesse Range, Mt Wakefield, Glen Lyon Station), Otago (Hidden Falls, Jordan River Dart Valley, Invincible Creek, Rees Valley, Mt Kyeburn, Waipori, Blue Lake Garvie Mts, Catlins), Southland (Waikaia, Forest Hill, Seaward Bush, Waikoau River, Pickersgill Harbour, Wet Jacket Arm Dusky Sound). **Stewart Island:** (Mt Anglem, Glory Cove). **Campbell Island. Antipode Islands.**

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

HABITAT

In tussock grassland, on cliffs, on moss, peat, decaying logs and in *Leptospermum* heath, s.l. to 1000 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Primary squamules disappearing, 2-5 mm long and broad, irregularly lobed, crenate, ascending, upper surface grey-green, lower side white, sorediate or not. **Podetia** arising from surface of primary squamules or dying at base, 3-6 cm tall, to 2.5 mm diam., repeatedly dichotomously branching, branches cylindrical, dilating slightly at axils, axils open or closed, apices usually subulate, partly or entirely isidiate-sorediate, or with minute, spreading and appressed or peeling squamules, apices subulate, granular-sorediate or verrucose-granular, squamulose or not.

Cortex ± areolate, becoming decorticate, interspaces dull, white, whitish-glaucous or ashy-olive or ashy-bluish and variegated. **Apothecia** small, dark brown, sometimes on corymbose branchlets at tips of podetia.

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



Podetia tip, Te Aroha, Waikato. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.



Terricolous trackside, Te Aroha, Waikato. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.

SIMILAR TAXA

Cladonia scabriuscula has affinities with *C. furcata* but is distinguished by the peeling, ±detached squamules and the presence of soredia or scabrose patches on the podetia. The apices of podetia often also have a characteristic longitudinal split in the cortex (×10 lens).

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, on moss and decaying logs

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (4 April 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-scabriuscula/>