

# Cladonia southlandica

## FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

## AUTHORITY

Cladonia southlandica W.Martin

## 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 pale yellowish cortex; and the presence of usnic and fumarprotocetraric acids.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Northland (Awanui, Kaitaia, Karikari Peninsula), South Auckland (Te Moehau Coromandel Peninsula). **South Island:** Nelson (Lead Hills, Mt Technical), Westland (Kelly Range, near Ross), Canterbury (Temple Basin Arthur's Pass, Craigieburn River), Otago (Rees Valley), Southland (Pukerau, Awarua Bay). **Stewart Island:** (Glory Cove, Mt Allen, Tin Range, Fraser Peaks, Fright Cove Port Pegasus).

Also in Australia.

## HABITAT

In alpine-subalpine habitats on peat soils amongst mounds of *Sphagnum*, rarely on decaying wood.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Primary squamules** persistent or disappearing, 0.5-2 mm long, crenate-incised, margins  $\pm$  lobulate, brown-yellow, smooth above, whitish arachnoid below. **Podetia** growing from margins and upper surface of primary squamules, 3 cm tall, 1-1.5 mm diam., at base, expanding upwards, subcylindrical, rather crowded, simple to irregularly dichotomously branched, with or without cups, cups regular, oblique or deformed, proliferating from margins, covered with a concave or funnel-shaped membrane. **Cortex** pale yellowish, brown-black at base, impellucid, decorticate, surface rather uneven, imperforate or with occasional perforations or  $\pm$  areolate, areolae smooth, raised, soredia and squamules absent, chondroid layer smooth, not reticulate. **Apothecia** minute, terminal, pale brown, 0.2-1.0 mm diam., convex, simple or  $\pm$  confluent, on marginal proliferations of cups. **Pycnidia** bottle-shaped, 0.1 mm diam., at tips of fertile podetia below apothecia and on surface of primary squamules, ostiole black-rimmed, gaping.

**Chemistry:** Cortex K-, KC+ yellow, Pd+ red; containing usnic acid and fumarprotocetraric acid.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Thalli are more robust than those of *C. capitellata*.

## SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, rarely on decaying wood



Terricolous in alpine, Mt Anglem Stewart Island. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.



Terricolous in alpine, Mt Anglem Stewart Island. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.

### **ATTRIBUTION**

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (8 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-southlandica/>