

Cryptothecia bartlettii

FAMILY

Arthoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cryptothecia bartlettii G.Thor

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Most easily recognised by: the corticolous habit; and the loosely attached grey to whitish grey thallus that is C+ red (gyrophoric acid); paraphysoids loosely enclosing asci; and ovoid ascospores often slightly constricted just below mid-point (50–)70–85(–95) × 20–30(–33) µm.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Te Pahi, Radar Bush, Waiwera Scenic Reserve, Te Huka, Herekino Gorge, Church Road Scenic Reserve near Kaitaia, Okaihau Hill).

First collected by the late John Bartlett.

HABITAT

On bark of *Agathis australis*, *Beilschmiedia tarairi*, *Leptospermum scoparium* agg., *Rhopalostylis sapida*, and *Vitex lucens* in northern coastal forest, 100–300 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus up to 10 cm diam., loosely attached to substratum, smooth, dull grey to whitish grey, with paler, sometimes slightly raised areas, up to 0.6 mm thick, prothallus usually distinct, whitish, byssoid. **Medulla** whitish with many calcium oxalate crystals (5–25 µm diam.). **Photobiont** green, *Trentepohlia*-like, cells single or a few cells aggregated, 6–15 × 5–10 µm. **Isidia** not seen but with a few, globose, isidia-like structures, 0.1 mm diam. **Paraphysoids** enclosing the asci loosely attached. **Asci** frequent, weakly aggregated, often covered by a blackish amorphous tissue enclosed by whitish hyphae, usually with spores, monosporous or rarely 2-spored, with or without a distinct ocular chamber, 90–105 × 50–65 µm. **Ascospores** frequent, ovoid, often slightly constricted just below mid-point (50–)70–85(–95) × 20–30(–33) µm. **Pycnidia** infrequent, developed in zone between different thalli, solitary, immersed to slightly elevated, black, 0.05 mm diam. **Conidia** bacillar, slightly curved, 5–6(–7) × 1 µm. **Chemistry:** Thallus K–, C+ red, Pd–, UV+ pale grey-white; containing gyrophoric acid.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, saxicolous



Corticolous on karaka, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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Corticolous on karaka, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (28 December 2023). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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/cryptothecia-bartlettii/>