

# Degeliella versicolor

## SYNONYMS

*Lecanora versicolor*, *Psoroma versicolor*, *Psoromidium versicolor*

## FAMILY

Pannariaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Degeliella versicolor* (Hook.f. & Taylor) P.M.Jørg.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO, Sp

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; a thallus of flattened, scattered to contiguous squamules dispersed on a thin, furfuraceous prothallus; flattened or convex, plicate–radiate cephalodia with prominent, whitish, radiating striations when moist; discrete, rarely conglomerate apothecia with prominent, persistent margins; ascospores distinctly roughened–warted, spherical to oval–ellipsoidal, 9–12(–15.5) × 4.5–9(–13) µm.

## DISTRIBUTION

**South Island:** Westland (Alexander Range Camp Creek). **Stewart Island:**

(Track from Disappointment Cove to Broad Bay) **Auckland Islands:**

(Erebus Cove, Terror Cove, Laurie Harbour).

Known also from Tasmania and southern South America.

## HABITAT

On Stewart Island found on the bark of *Myrsine australis*, together with *Degeliella rosulata*, *Megalania pulverea*, *Menegazzia nothofagi*, *Pannaria nothofagi*, *P. sphinctrina*. On bark of *Fuchsia*, *Metrosideros umbellata*, *Myrsine australis*, *Neopanax* and *Weinmannia racemosa*, lowland, coastal.

Some Tasmanian collections of *D. versicolor* are parasitised by *Polycoccum jamesii*, and this parasite occurs also on Port Pegasus populations of *D. versicolor*.



Corticolous. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** minutely squamulose, in irregular patches 1-2 cm diam. **Squamules** flattened, irregular, convex, 0.1-0.3 mm diam., ± confluent-imbricate centrally, scattered on a fine, thin, black prothallus marginally, pale yellow-green or olivaceous, paler at margins, matt or ± shining. **Cephalodia** 0.5-2.0 mm diam., plicate-radiate, pale greyish or bluish-yellow, ± conical centrally, overgrowing squamules centrally or scattered on prothallus at margins.

**Apothecia** scattered, solitary to 2-3-confluent, mainly central, 0.1-2.5 mm diam., sessile, disc pale to dark red-brown, concave to plane or ± undulate-convex, matt, margins prominent, pale flesh-coloured to yellowish, consistently paler than disc, entire or crenulate, persistent, occasionally with a fringe of fine, white, silky hairs below. **Paraphyses** simple, coarsely submoniliform at apices. **Ascospores** ellipsoid with slightly pointed ends, 11-15.3 × 7-8.5 µm, wall smooth, 2 µm thick.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (14 September 2021). Information in the Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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/degeliella-versicolor/>