

Dictyonema sericeum

SYNONYMS

Thelephora sericea

FAMILY

Hygrophoraceae

AUTHORITY

Dictyonema sericeum (Sw.) Berk.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Fruticose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, SO, Sp

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the spreading, soft, membranous-spongy (when moist), semicircular, or reniform thallus to 25 cm diam.; the zonate or azonate, greenish to blue-green, fibrillose upper surface; and the occurrence of whitish or creamish hymenia (containing basidia) in small spots or patches among the greenish filaments.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Radar Bush, Te Pahi Trig Bush, Tutamoe, Dargaville), Auckland (Waitakere Ranges, Rangitoto Island), South Auckland (Mangaotaki River). **South Island:** Nelson (Puponga, near Denniston), Westland (Paringa River), Otago (Whisky Gully, Blue Mountains).

Pantropical. Known also from Asia, East Africa, the Pacific, Australia, Florida, Mexico, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Guadaloupe, Dominica, Central and South America.

HABITAT

Generally abundant when it occurs, on the damp bark and among mosses on *Carpodetus serratus* and *Leptospermum scoparium* in humid bush, also overgrowing mosses on the forest floor and on totara bark in dense, humid northern forest; and overgrowing mosses within waterfall spray at the head of Whisky Gully in dense, shaded silver beech (*Lophozonia menziesii*) forest. It should be looked for more widely.



In amongst mosses on nīkau palm, Heaphy Track, West Coast. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 04/04/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



In amongst mosses on nīkau palm, Heaphy Track, West Coast. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 04/04/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus a basidiocarp, sessile or bent backwards, single or united in rosettes, soft or paper-like, small or to 25 cm diam. **Upper surface** glabrous or hairy or radially fibrillose, sometimes furrowed or zonate, greyish or some shade of green or bluish-green or olivaceous. **Lower surface** even, granular, reticulate or with low, concentric bands of whitish or cream fruiting bodies (hymenophores). Photobiont green (*Chroococcus*), or blue-green (*Scytonema*). Basidia in fascicles, clavate or subcylindrical with 4 curved slender sterigmata. Basidiospores subcylindrical, narrowly ellipsoid 6-10 × 2.8-5 µm, thin-walled, colourless.

Chemistry: TLC–, all reactions negative.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, muscicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (9 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Extra information 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/dictyonema-sericeum/>