

# Diploschistes gypsaceus

## FAMILY

Graphidaceae

## AUTHORITY

Diploschistes gypsaceus (Ach.) Zahlbr.

## 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

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit (basic rocks); a whitish, pruinose thallus; uniseriate, 4-spored asci; brown muriform ascospores, 25–40 × 10–17 µm; and lecanoric acid in the medulla.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Wellington (NW Ruahine Ranges). **South Island:** Nelson (Mt Owen Range). Also found in Canterbury (Castle Hill) in 2012 (Allison Knight, pers. comm.).

Known also from Iceland, Great Britain, Europe, the Azores, Scandinavia, North and South America (Colombia, Venezuela), India and Nepal, and Australia.

## HABITAT

On limestone and marble. Widespread in Mediterranean climates on calcareous rocks in somewhat shaded and damp sites.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** crustose, uniform, cracked to areolate, areolae 0.8–2 mm diam. **Upper surface** matt, grey to chalky white, densely pruinose. **Apothecia** urceolate, 2–5 mm diam. **Proper exciple** blackish, to 65 µm thick. **Hymenium** 120–190 µm tall, colourless. **Asci** subclavate to cylindrical, 90–130 × 20–30 µm, 4-spored. **Ascospores** brown, muriform, broadly ellipsoidal, 25–40 × 10–17 µm, 4–7 transverse septa, 1–2 longitudinal septa per transverse segment.

**Pycnidia** not seen.

**Chemistry:** K–, C+ red, Pd–, UV–; containing lecanoric acid.

## SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous (limestone)

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (14 December 2021). 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/diploschistes-gypsaceus/>

