

Fuscoderma applanatum

SYNONYMS

Leioderma applanatum

FAMILY

Pannariaceae

AUTHORITY

Fuscoderma applanatum (D.J.Galloway & P.M.Jørg.) P.M.Jørg. & D.J.Galloway

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Hunua Ranges, Kaimanawa Ranges) to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Canterbury (Hawdon River), Otago (Routeburn), Southland (Lake Thomson, Lake Monowai Fiordland), 350–750 m.

HABITAT

A corticolous species growing both on exposed bark and over mosses on trunks of forest trees or branches of shrubs in damp, rather shaded habitats. It is most common in areas of high humidity especially on *Fuscospora* bark. Also known from *Dracophyllum*, *Knightia excelsa*, *Metrosideros*, *Phyllocladus trichomanoides*, *Podocarpus laetus*, *Pterophyllum racemosa*.

It has a rather more restricted range than *F. amphibolum*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus squamulose–subfoliose, becoming ±orbicular in loosely attached, flat rosettes, 1–4(–5) cm diam. **Lobes** convex, 0.5–2 mm wide, discrete to imbricate. Margins thickened, often ±curled under, entire or incised, distinctly short-pubescent to pruinose, pubescence occasionally spreading to lamina. **Upper surface** dark greyish or glaucous–olivaceous when wet, olive to chestnut greyish when dry, occasionally shallowly pitted or areolate–scabrid. **Lower surface** white at margins, buff to dark-brown centrally, uniformly arachnoid–tomentose. Rhizohyphae 0.2–1 mm long, whitish buff to black, often tufted at apices. **Apothecia** common, often abundant, sessile, constricted at base, laminal to submarginal, discrete to crowded (3–6-together), rounded or slightly distorted through mutual pressure, 0.1–1(–1.2) mm diam., visible at first as pale swellings on the upper surface, when emergent shallowly concave with a prominent, pale proper exciple, becoming plane to subconvex; disc matt, pale orange-brown, proper exciple persistent, translucent when wet, paler than disc when dry, most obvious in young fruits, thinner and occasionally excluded at maturity. **Hymenium** 90–110 µm tall. **Ascospores** 10–16 × 5–7 µm, apiculate at both ends, apiculae 18–22 µm long. **Pycnidia** very rare, on lobe margins, minute, 0.1 mm diam., swollen, papillate, solitary or aggregated, red-brown to black.



Corticolous, Fox Glacier West Coast.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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Corticolous in forest, Waihaha Pureora.
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SIMILAR TAXA

Fuscoderma applanatum is closely related to *F. amphibolum* but is distinguished from it by the thicker, olive to chestnut-grey thallus, the abundant presence of apothecia, and the absence of soredia.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ETYMOLOGY

applanatum: Flattened or horizontally expanded

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (5 January 2022). Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa 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/fuscoderma-applanatum/>