

Haematomma babingtonii

SYNONYMS

Lecanora babingtonii, *Lecania babingtonii*, *Haematomma puniceum*, *Haematomma puniceum* f. *rufopallens*

FAMILY

Haematommataceae

AUTHORITY

Haematomma babingtonii A.Massal.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the white-pruinose apothecial discs (apothecial discs of *H. alpinum* are epruinose) and the presence of pseudoplacodiolic acid.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Maungataniwha State Forest), Taranaki (Whangamomona Stream), Wellington (Waimarino, Hihitahi, Rangitikei Gorge). **South Island:** Nelson (Owen Range, Mt Arthur), Marlborough (Seaward Valley), Canterbury (Cass, Castle Hill, Pigeon Bay, Montgomery Scenic Reserve Banks Peninsula), Otago (Lindis Pass) to Southland. **Stewart Island/Rakiura:** (Halfmoon Bay).

HABITAT

Coastal and inland more common in drier, eastern areas, s.l. to 1100 m. A common and prominent epiphyte of *Cassinia* [*Ozothamnus*], *Cytisus**, *Discaria*, *Hoheria*, *Juglans**, *Malus**, *Melicope*, *Pittosporum*, *Ribes**, *Prunus**, *Salix** and *Sophora*. Rarely on rocks in streams in subalpine habitats. Parasitised by the lichenicolous fungus **Arthonia haematommatum*.

* Introduced species.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus crustose, thin or thick, smooth and shining or granular-warted or nodular to minutely subsquamulose, ashy white to pale greenish-grey, to 6 cm diam., corticolous. **Apothecia** common, lecanorine, scattered or crowded, rounded to irregular-indentured, sessile or constricted at base, to 3 mm wide, disc concave at first, becoming plane or strongly convex with age, scarlet, to pale flesh-pink, matt, often ± finely white-pruinose, margins thick, persistent, concolorous with thallus, entire or crenulate with rather blunt apices, 1-5(-8)-septate, (19-)25-40(-45) × 3-8 µm.

Chemistry: Atranorin, haematommone and pseudoplacodiolic acid (Staiger & Kalb 1995).

SIMILAR TAXA

Haematomma babingtonii is distinguished from *H. alpinum* by its white-pruinose apothecial discs (they are epruinose in *H. alpinum*), and *H. alpinum* tends to occur at higher elevations.



Hinewai Reserve, Banks Peninsula.
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Taringatura Scenic Reserve, Southland.
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SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, rarely saxicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (9 March 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Galloway DJ. 1985. Flora of New Zealand Lichens. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 662 p.

Galloway DJ. 2007. Flora of New Zealand Lichens. Revised 2nd edition including lichen-forming and lichenicolous fungi. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln, NZ. Two volumes: vol. 1 pp 1–1006; vol. 2 pp 1007–2261.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/haematomma-babingtonii/>