

Heterodermia microphylla

SYNONYMS

Polyblastidium microphyllum (Kurok.) Kalb

FAMILY

Physciaceae

AUTHORITY

Heterodermia microphylla (Kurok.) Swinscow & Krog

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; marginal phyllidia; a non-corticate lower surface; and a chemistry of atranorin and zeorin.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Whangarei, Warkworth).

Known also from India, Thailand, China, Japan, East and South Africa, Zimbabwe, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

HABITAT

On bark of trees and shrubs in parks, gardens and roadside verges.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Lobes slightly disjunct to adjacent, ± plane, not ascending, with short lateral lobes. **Upper surface** uneven, squamulose. **Squamules** marginal and laminal, dissected, sometimes **sorediate**. **Lower surface** pale, ecorticate. **Apothecia** laminal, sessile to subpedicellate, thalline exciple squamulose or ± sorediate. **Ascospores** without sporoblastidia, 25–35 × 12–18 µm

Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow, C–, KC–, P+ yellow; medulla K+ yellow, C–, P+ pale yellow; containing atranorin (major), zeorin (major), aipolic acid (trace), 6α-acetoxypopane-16β,22-diol (trace), japonin (trace), 6α-acetoxy-16β,22-dihydroxypopane-25-oic acid (minor), ±16βacetoxypopane-6α,22-dihydroxypopane-25-oic acid (trace), anaptychin 1 (trace).

SIMILAR TAXA

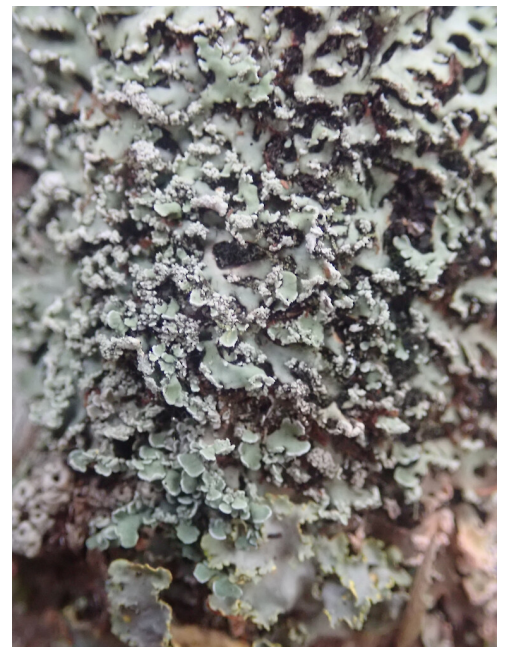
Heterodermia appendiculata is similar but has norstictic acid in the medulla and has longer ascospores.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, saxicolous



Corticolous on mānuka, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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Corticolous on mānuka, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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ETYMOLOGY

heterodermia: From the Greek heteros (other, different) and derma (a skin or hide), in reference to the presence or absence of a lower cortex

microphylla: Small leaf

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (6 January 2024). 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/heterodermia-microphylla/>