

# Lecanora bicincta

## FAMILY

Lecanoraceae

## AUTHORITY

Lecanora bicincta Ramond

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit (high-alpine overhanging or vertical rock faces); the white, areolate thallus (C-) and the subimmersed apothecia having a blue-black disc thickly covered with white pruina (pruina C+ brilliant yellow indicating presence of sordidone).

## DISTRIBUTION

**South Island:** Otago (Old Man Range, Poolburn Reservoir, Manorburn, Teviot River near lake Onslow, Rock & Pillar Range, Flagstaff near Dunedin).

Known also from Europe, Scandinavia, the Balkans, South Africa, North America and Australia (New South Wales).

## HABITAT

A predominantly high-alpine species occurring on overhanging or vertical hard, smooth schist rocks, together with species of *Aspicilia*, *Lecanora cavicola*, *L. polytropa*, *L. rupicola*, *L. swartzii*, *Protoparmelia badia*, *Ramalina fimbriata*, *Rhizocarpon*, and *Xanthoparmelia xanthomelaena* and, like *L. rupicola*, also on sun-exposed rocks, 650–1600 m.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** crustose, thick, areolate, spreading in irregular bands or patches, (0.5–)1–2(–2.5) cm diam., without a delimiting prothallus. **Upper surface** smooth, to somewhat roughened, white, tartareous, cracks between areolae very narrow to somewhat gaping. **Apothecia** scattered, rather sparse, rounded (0.05–)0.01–0.05(–0.8) mm diam., subimmersed in areolae at first, becoming sessile at maturity, margins concolorous with thallus, only very slightly raised; disc plane to subconvex, blue-black, thickly white-pruinose (pruina C+ brilliant yellow), often difficult to distinguish from remainder of thallus. Epithecium brownish green (N+ red). Hymenium 60–70 µm tall. **Ascospores** ellipsoidal, 8–15 × 5–8 µm.

**Chemistry:** Thallus K+ yellow, C-, Pd-; disc K-, C+ brilliant yellow, Pd-; containing atranorin and sordidone. Lumbsch & Elix (2004: 24) give the chemistry as atranorin (major), sordidone (major), thiophanic acid (submajor), norstictic acid (submajor), arthothelin (minor), chloroatranorin (minor), ±connorstictic acid (minor) and eugenitol (minor).



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*Lecanora bicincta* is part of the *L. rupicola* aggregate and in Europe four chemodemes are recognised (Leuckert & Poelt 1989). It is still poorly collected and understood in New Zealand, where at present it is known from a few high-alpine habitats in Central Otago and from Flagstaff Hill above Dunedin (Galloway 2002). The lichenicolous fungus \**Arthonia glaucomaria* Nyl. (q.v.) is reported as parasitising apothecial discs of *L. bicincta* (Leuckert & Poelt 1989: 128) and should be looked for in New Zealand populations. Other lichenicolous fungi parasitising *Lecanora carpinea* are \**Arthonia varians* (Davies) Nyl. and \**Rimularia insularis*.

#### ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (31 August 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Extra information sections copied from Galloway (2007).

#### REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Galloway D.J. 2002: Notes on high-alpine species of *Lecanora* from schist underhangs in southern New Zealand, and a new name for *L. parmelinoides*. *Australasian Lichenology* 51: 20-32.

Galloway D.J. 2007: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens, including lichen-forming and lichenicolous fungi*. 2nd edition. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press. 2261 pp.

Leuckert C. and Poelt J. 1989: Studien über die *Lecanora rupicola*-Gruppe in Europa (Lecanoraceae). *Nova Hedwigia* 49: 121-167.

Lumbsch H.T. and Elix J.A. 2004: *Lecanora*. *Flora of Australia* 56A: 12-62.

#### MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lecanora-bicincta/>