

Lecanora flavopallida

SYNONYMS

Lecanora flavopallescens C.Knight, *Lecanora symmictoides* Nyl., *Lecidea aucklandica* var. *planata* Zahlbr., *Lecidea* (*Biatora*) *fineranii* C.W.Dodge in B.A. Fineran, *Ionaspis neozelandica* C.W.Dodge.

FAMILY

Lecanoraceae

AUTHORITY

Lecanora flavopallida Stirt.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the pale orange to brown-pink apothecial discs, which may or may not have a thin grey-white pruina; broadly ellipsoidal ascospores, 14–19 × 9–12 µm; the presence of chlorinated xanthones (C+ orange); almost biatorine apothecia; and filiform conidia, 13–22 × 0.5–1 µm. It is a distinctive species that is rarely confused with other species of *Lecanora*. It is a rather variable species (hence the extensive synonymy), the variation being discussed in detail by Guderley et al. (1998).

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Three Kings Island, Kaitaia, Cooper's Beach, Opua Bay of Islands, Whangarei, Great Barrier Island), Auckland (Anawhata, Rangitoto Island, Auckland City), South Auckland (Motuhora Island), to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland. **Stewart Island:** (Port Pegasus, Broad Bay). **Snares Islands.** Common and widespread. Also known in Australia from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia.

HABITAT

Throughout, on bark of mainly coastal trees and shrubs and on lignum (especially fenceposts, power poles etc.).



Corticolous on *Salix* sp. Western Springs Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 24/08/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous on *Salix* sp. Western Springs Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 24/08/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus pale yellowish-green or greyish-green or whitish, often ± effuse and evanescent, minutely verrucose-uneven, granular, furfuraceous to ± continuous and irregularly rimose, matt or shining, in irregular patches 1-5 cm diam., delimited or not by a marginal black prothallus. **Apothecia** sessile (± subinnate on lignum), round to subirregular, solitary or 2-3-confluent and distorted through mutual pressure, 0.1-1.2(-1.5) mm diam., subconcave to plane to convex, disc pale to dark pinkish-brown with or without a thin, grey-white pruina, matt, margins persistent, pale flesh-coloured, entire to subcrenulate. Epithecium pale red-brown 10-14 µm thick. **Hymenium** colourless, 40-52 µm tall. **Hypothecium** pale yellowish 20-30 µm thick. **Paraphyses** simple, densely conglutinate, not thickened at apices. **Ascospores** oval, 17-22.1 × 10.2-15.3 µm, wall 1.7 µm thick.

Chemistry: Thallus K+ yellow, C+ orange. Major compounds: Arthothelin and thiophanic acid; minor compounds: ± atranorin, ± chloroatranorin, asemone and 4,5-dichloronorlichexanthone .

SIMILAR TAXA

At first sight it might be confused with a species of *Bacidia*, but is readily distinguished by the presence of non-septate ascospores.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, lignicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (15 February 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa 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.
Guderley R., Lumbsch H.T., and Elix J.A. 1998: *Lecanora flavopallida*, a species of *Lecanora* sensu stricto with almost biatorine apothecia (Lecanorales). *Bryologist* 101: 103-108.

MORE INFORMATION

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