

Lecidea ochroleuca

FAMILY

Lecideaceae

AUTHORITY

Lecidea ochroleuca Pers.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit; broadly ellipsoidal ascospores, a dark-brown hypothecium, asci *Lecidea*-type; and no detectable secondary compounds in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Whale Island). **South Island:** Otago (Dunedin).

Known also from Mexico (Baja California) and Australia.

HABITAT

On soil, especially sunny clay banks and siliceous rocks in open situations.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus verrucose-areolate, to 6 cm diam., and to 0.3 mm thick, without a delimiting prothallus. **Areolae** irregularly angular, white to grey, plane to subconvex, roughened or smooth, 0.5–1 mm diam. **Medulla** l-. **Apothecia** rounded to auriculate, scattered to crowded, 0.7–1.3(–2) mm diam., sessile. **Disc** plane to subconvex, black, matt, rarely white-pruinose; margins concolorous with disc, matt, distinct at first then becoming occluded. **Hypothecium** dark-brown, 120–160(–200) μm thick, subhymenial layer pale brownish or greenish, 15–30 μm thick. **Hymenium** 60–95 μm tall, colourless to pale greenish, l+ bluish brown; **epithecium** olivaceous, 10 μm thick. **Asci** 60–75 \times 10–12 μm ; tholus to 9 μm thick. **Ascospores** ellipsoidal, (7–)9–16.5(–20) \times 5–8 μm . **Pycnidia** immersed. **Conidia** 6–10 \times 1 μm . **Chemistry:** TLC–, all reactions negative.

SIMILAR TAXA

It is the only known species of *Lecidea* in New Zealand to colonise sandy soil.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, saxicolous

ETYMOLOGY

ochroleuca: Pale ochre-coloured

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (12 December 2021). Brief description, 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/lecidea-ochroleuca/>