

# Leiorreuma exaltatum

## SYNONYMS

Lecanactis exaltata, Phaeographis exaltata

## FAMILY

Graphidaceae

## AUTHORITY

Leiorreuma exaltatum (Mont. & Bosch) Staiger

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; a rather thick, grey to creamish grey thallus; flexuose, stellate or short and circular lirellae, often with thin, lateral thalline intrusions; a black to grey-pruinose disc; 6-locular ascospores, 22–38 × 10–12 µm; and no secondary chemistry.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** South Auckland (Mt Moehau, Coromandel Range), Wellington (W slopes of Tararua Ranges). **South Island:** Nelson (Tophouse, Lead Hills), Westland (Greymouth), Otago (Lake Howden, Leith Saddle Dunedin), Southland (Doubtful Sound). **Stewart Island.**

Known also from Mexico, Dominica, Brazil (Wirth & Hale 1963, 1978; Aptroot 2002e), Hawai'i, Japan, Sabah, Malesia, Java, the Philippines (Magnusson 1955; Nakanishi 1966; Hayward 1977; Staiger 2002; Kurokawa 2003; Nakanishi et al. 2003), mainland Australia and Tasmania.

## HABITAT

Often on bark of beech (*Fuscospora* spp., *Lophozonia menziesii*) trees, montane, lowland and coastal, s.l. to 800 m.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** thick, pale, dull white, corticolous. **Lirellae** prominent 1-6 × 0.3-0.6 mm, irregular, branched and flexuose, sometimes stellate, often with thalline margin interrupting and breaking one fruit into several, proper exciple open, base carbonised, thalline margin distinct, often raised, disc plane, black or faintly pruinose and grey. **Ascospores** 8 per ascus, 6-locular, 20-30 × 8-10 µm, with thick, dark walls, younger spores brown, darkening and wrinkling with age.

**Chemistry:** TLC–, all reactions negative.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

*Leiorreuma* is a genus of c. 7 species included in the family Graphidaceae. It is characterised by lirellae of variable shape, with a prominent thalline margin that sometimes breaks across the hymenium forming smaller, circular apothecia; a carbonised exciple that is continuous below the hymenium forming a thick, carbonised hypothecium; 8-spored, Graphis-type asci; and brownish, transversely septate, thick-walled ascospores. It occurs in both tropical and temperate biomes. One species is known from New Zealand.



### ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (3 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Extra information 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/leiorreuma-exaltatum/>