

Lepra dactylina

SYNONYMS

Lichen dactylinus Ach., Lecanidium perenne C.W.Dodge, Pertusaria dactylina (Ach.) Nyl.

FAMILY

Ochrolechiaceae

AUTHORITY

Lepra dactylina (Ach.) Hafellner, Stapfia

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 terricolous/muscicolous habit; the isidiate thallus; and the presence of fumarprotocetraric acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Mt Moehau, Coromandel Peninsula), Wellington (Kaimanawa Range, Tararua Range). **South Island:** Nelson (St Arnaud Range, Lake Sylvester, Mt Technical), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Craigieburn Range, Torlesse Range, Mt Hutt, Mt McClure, Mt Wakefield, Copland Ridge Mt Cook National Park, Mt Peel), Otago (Mt Brewster, St Bathans Range, Hawkdun Range, Dunstan Mountains, Old Man Range, The Remarkables, Pisa Range, Rock & Pillar Range, Poolburn Reservoir, Kakanui Mountains, Blue Mountains, Humboldt Range, Park Pass, Cow Saddle, Fohn Saddle, North Col, Coronet Peak, Bedford Valley). **Stewart Island:** (Mt Anglem, Tin Range, Fraser Peaks).

Circumpolar, arctic–alpine in the Northern Hemisphere. Known also from Macquarie Island.

HABITAT

Mainly East of the Main Divide, on soil or among mosses in fellfield and tundra; especially well-developed in patterned ground of the Central Otago Mountains, 600–2,700 m.



Terricolous in subalpine, Red Hills Nelson.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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Terricolous in subalpine, Red Hills Nelson.
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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus white, rarely greyish-white, episubstratal, thin, engulfing substrate, margin ± entire and unzoned, surface smooth to ± tuberculate, at times ± shining, continuous, never areolate-cracked, isidiate. **Isidia** initially papillate becoming columnar, often 1-2-branched at apices, bases well constricted with sides and tips only occasionally fused (0.2-)0.7(-1.2) mm diam., (0.4-)2(-7) mm tall. Fertile **verrucae** lecanorine, concolorous with thallus, terminal, embedded in tips of isidia, ± numerous and locally crowded, but usually narrower than isidia, often infrequently fused, 1-3 × 0.4-1.0 mm diam. **Disc** flesh-coloured to dominantly dark brown or black, plane or innate, occasionally convex, usually white-pruinose, 0.2-0.9 mm wide. **Apothecia** 1 per verruca, only slightly wider than disc, 0.37-0.96 mm diam. **Epithecium** brown, dark brown or black. **Hypothecium** colourless or pale brown. Asci clavate (150-)230(-340) × (43-)70(-120) µm. **Ascospores** 1 per ascus, oval, ellipsoid or cylindrical, generally deformed, frequently germinated and filled with oil bodies (100-)170(-270) × (38-)60(-115) µm, wall (2-)11(-30) µm thick. **Chemistry:** Cortex K-, C-. Pd-; medulla K+yellow-brown, C-, Pd+ yellow-orange; containing

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar to *P. gymnospora* but that species has protocetraric as the major secondary metabolite and has more robust isidia.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, muscicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (2 June 2021). 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/lepra-dactylina/>