

Lepra muricata

FAMILY

Pertusariaceae

AUTHORITY

Lepra muricata (J.C.David) A.W.Archer & Elix

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: OL, SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the densely isidiate thallus; the absence of apothecia; and the presence of stictic acid.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Mangamuka River) (Hokianga).

Known also from Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, and Queensland.

HABITAT

On lowland trees. Still very poorly known in New Zealand.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus corticolous, isidiate, forming extensive creamy-white to greenish patches of variable thickness, when thicker it is glossy, corticate, areolate. **Isidia** numerous, concolorous with thallus, sometimes densely crowded but also ±scattered, simple, rarely branched or becoming coralloid, 0.2–1 mm tall, 0.05–0.1 mm diam. **Apothecia** unknown.

Chemistry: K+ yellow, C–, KC+ yellow, Pd+ orange; containing stictic acid with traces of constictic and cryptostictic acids.

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar to *Pertusaria barbatica* but with K- chemistry.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ETYMOLOGY

muricata: Furnished with numerous short hard excrescences

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (2 June 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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.



Corticolous on nīkau, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
24/12/2019, Licence: CC BY.



Corticolous on nīkau, Hokianga Far North.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
24/12/2019, Licence: CC BY.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lepra-muricata/>