

Leptogium cyanescens

SYNONYMS

Collema cyanescens

FAMILY

Collemaataceae

AUTHORITY

Leptogium cyanescens (Rabenh.) Körb.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous (rarely saxicolous) habit; broad, rounded, unwrinkled lobes with a naked lower surface, and having laminal and marginal isidia. The isidia are terete, simple to coralloid and may occasionally be somewhat lobulate in parts, but never extensively phyllidiate.

DISTRIBUTION

Kermadec Islands: (Raoul Island). **North Island:** Northland (Three Kings Island) to Wellington. **South Island:** Marlborough to Southland (Milford Sound). **Stewart Island:** (Moturau Moana). **Chatham Islands.** **Campbell Island.**

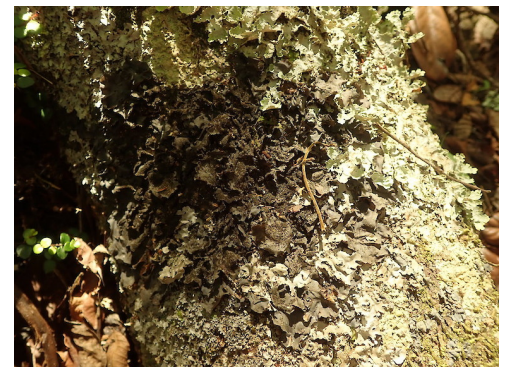
Known also from Great Britain, Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, North and South America, Socotra and Australia.

HABITAT

On bark and twigs and among mosses, rarely on damp, mossy rocks or on damp soil, in shaded, humid lowland or coastal forest habitats, and on coastal rocks in northern parts of the country, s.l. to 400 m. It seems to be rare in southern New Zealand. It is epiphytic on the following phorophytes: *Acer pseudoplatanus**, *Aristotelia serrata*, *Beilschmiedia taraira*, *B. tawa*, *Cordyline australis*, *Corynocarpus laevigatus*, *Dracophyllum arboreum*, *Didymocheton spectabilis*, *Knightia excelsa*, *Kunzea*, *Leptospermum scoparium*, *Melicytus ramiflorus*, *Nestegis apetala*, *Fuscospora*, *Metrosideros excelsa*, *Myrsine australis*, *Pittosporum umbellatum*, *Plagianthus divaricatus*, *Podocarpus totara*, *Salix fragilis** and *Pterophylla sylvicola*.



Corticolous in shaded forest, St John's Bush Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 21/10/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous on broadleaf forest, Hokianga Far North. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 26/12/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus lobate, flat, attached loosely to substrate by scattered tufts of hairs, spreading, orbicular to irregular, 1-5(-8) cm diam., greyish-blue to olive greenish, corticolous. **Lobes** orbicular, 2-4 mm wide, margins entire, wavy, ± ascending to dentate-isidiate. **Upper surface** smooth to occasionally slightly roughened, not wrinkled or plicate, isidiate. **Isidia** abundant, laminal, granular-furfuraceous, cylindrical to clavate to lobulate, often branching, concolorous with thallus. **Lower surface** glabrous, smooth, concolorous with upper surface or paler, to ± greyish-fawn. **Apothecia** rare, sessile, to subpedicellate, laminal, 0.5-2 mm diam., disc concave to convex, pale brown to red-brown, thalline exciple entire to isidiate, pale grey to fawn. **Ascospores** ellipsoid, apices rounded or pointed, 18-27 × 6-10 µm.

SIMILAR TAXA

The nature of the isidia distinguish it from *L. oceanianum*, which has consistently flattened phyllidia.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous (bark)

ATTRIBUTION

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Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (2 March, 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985) & Galloway (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/leptogium-cyanescens/>