

Leptogium laceroides

FAMILY

Collemataceae

AUTHORITY

Leptogium laceroides de Lesd.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the muscicolous/terricolous habit; crowded–congested lobes with entire to lacerate or isidiate margins; laminal, terete to lobulate isidia; the smooth to occasionally wrinkled–plicate upper surface; and the densely white–tomentose lower surface.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Great Barrier Island), South Auckland (Waihaha), Wellington (Akitio). **South Island:** Westland (Kumara), Canterbury (Hamner Forest), Otago (Old Man Range), Southland (Aparima River near Hamilton Burn). **Stewart Island:** (Port Pegasus).

Known also from Europe, Africa, North, Central and South America and Tristan da Cunha.

HABITAT

Among mosses and hepatics in shaded, humid habitats in lowland rainforest or bush remnants, and rarely in alpine sites, also among mosses and grass in small stones at the edge of roads and paths, s.l. to 400 m. It is an epiphyte of the following phorophytes: *Cyathea dealbata*, *Kunzea ericoides* agg., *Melicytus ramiflorus*, *Metrosideros umbellata*, *Quercus**, and *Salix**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus flat to involute, lobate, spreading, greyish-blue to brownish, 2-5 cm diam., corticolous. **Lobes** orbicular to elongate ± elevated, overlapping, congested, 3-5 mm wide, margins entire to irregularly incised, isidiate. **Isidia** numerous, laminal, dense in places, polymorphic, cylindrical to lobulate, often flattened and minutely squamulose, simple or branched. **Upper surface** smooth, not or occasionally ± wrinkled-plicate. **Lower surface** densely white-tomentose, margins ± glabrous, hairs about 20 µm long. **Apothecia** rare, sessile, laminal, 3-4 mm diam., disc slightly convex, pale brown to dark red-brown, thalline exciple concolorous with thallus, with numerous isidioid outgrowths. **Ascospores** ellipsoid with pointed apices, submuriform, 28-35 × 12-17 µm.

SIMILAR TAXA

It is the isidiate counterpart of *Leptogium burgessi*.



Local, growing over bryophytes, Arthurs Pass Canterbury. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 25/11/2023, Licence: CC BY.



Local, growing over bryophytes, Arthurs Pass Canterbury. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 25/11/2023, Licence: CC BY.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous, saxicolous, muscicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (15 December 2023). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa 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/leptogium-laceroides/>