

# Leucodermia leucomelos

## COMMON NAME

Elegant fringe lichen

## SYNONYMS

Heterodermia leucomela, Heterodermia leucomelos, Lichen leucomelos

## FAMILY

Physciaceae

## AUTHORITY

Leucodermia leucomelos (L.) Kalb

## 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 habit; the entangled mass of elongate, linear lobes with long black marginal cilia; an ecorticate lower surface with thickened, corticate margins and subapical soralia.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Three Kings Islands to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland. **Stewart Island.**

Widespread in tropical, subtropical and temperate regions viz. Great Britain, Europe, Japan, East Africa, Réunion, North America, Mexico, South America, Hawai'i, Fiji, New Caledonia, and Australia.

## HABITAT

On twigs and bark of trees and shrubs.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Lobes** disjunct, narrow 0.4-1.5 mm wide, ribbon-like, straggling, dichotomously branched. **Upper surface** uneven with fine, long, black marginal cilia. **Lower surface** ecorticate, ± canaliculate, arachnoid, with subapical soralia.

**Apothecia** rare, laminal, subapical to apical, pedicellate, exciple crenulate to squamulose. **Ascospores** with sporoblastidia, 35-52 × 18-25 µm.

**Chemistry:** Atranorin, zeorin.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (15 February 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).



Corticolous lichen, Hihi State forest Far North. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 07/02/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous lichen, Hihi State forest Far North. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 07/02/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## 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/leucodermia-leucomelos/>