

Lichenomphalia chromacea

SYNONYMS

Agaricus alpinus, Lichenomphalia alpina, Omphalia luteovitellina, Omphalina luteovitellina

FAMILY

Hygrophoraceae

AUTHORITY

Lichenomphalia chromacea (Cleland) Redhead, Lutzoni, Moncalvo & Vilgalys

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Basidiomycete

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the terricolous habit; and the bright-yellow stipe and mushroom fruiting body.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Nelson (St Arnaud Range, Lewis Pass), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Woolshed Hill, Mt Peel, Kirkliston Range), Otago (Dublin Bay, Lake Wanaka, Remarkables, Old Man Range, Mt Bengier, Mt Teviot, Lake Onslow, Rock & Pillar Range, Blue Mountains).

Known also South Australia, New South Wales, and Tasmania.

HABITAT

On soil, among mosses in damp places, often on farm tracks, subalpine to alpine, to 2000 m. Still rather poorly collected.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Pileus to 15 mm broad, convex to plane, margin striate when wet, becoming undulate or scalloped, disc shallowly depressed, surface glabrous, often shining, appearing moist, bright yellow, paler with age and drying. **Context** thin, concolorous with pileus surface. **Lamellae** short-decurrent to long-decurrent, distant, often somewhat thickened, narrow, yellow like moist pileus, edges even. **Stipe** to 18 mm long, 1-2 mm thick, equal or base slightly enlarged often curved, base often tomentose but glabrous to fibrillose or subpubescent above, moist, solid, concolorous with lamellae and pileus. **Spores** 7-8.5(-9) × 4-4.5 µm, elliptical. **Basidia** 25-45 × 5-8 µm, mainly 4-spored sometimes 2-spored. Clamp connections absent. Scattered or gregarious, with lichenised association *Botrydina vulgaris* Bréb.

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar to other yellow non-lichenised basidio fungi but can be separated by the presence of green algal cells at the stipe base. It can be separated from other New Zealand entities of *Lichenomphalia* by its orange-yellow fruit.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous



Locally abundant in peaty soil in manuka - Dracophyllum shrub, Slopedown Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 16/11/2022, Licence: CC BY.



Locally abundant in peaty soil in manuka - Dracophyllum shrub, Slopedown Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 16/11/2022, Licence: CC BY.

Previously known in New Zealand as *Omphalia luteovitellina* (Pilát et Nannfeldt) M. Lange and *Lichenomphalia alpina* (Britzelm.) Redhead, Lutzoni, Moncalvo & Vilgalys.

It is thought there may be up to three species under the name *Lichenomphalia chromacea* in Australasia.

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/lichenomphalia-chromacea/>