

Lichina intermedia

SYNONYMS

Lichen confinis, Lichina pygmaea var. intermedia

FAMILY

Lichinaceae

AUTHORITY

Lichina intermedia (C.Bab.) M.Schultz

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Fruticose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit (coastal rocks); the fruticose, glossy, dark-brown, olive-green to black thallus in clumps or swards; terminal globose apothecia; and simple, colourless, ellipsoidal ascospores, 18–22.5 × 6.5–9.5 µm.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland.

Stewart Island. Chatham Islands: (Waitangi). **Auckland Islands.**

Campbell Island.

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

HABITAT

Widely distributed on coastal rocks.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus fruticose, erect, tufted, in clumps, or forming ± coalescing swards 1-4(-8) cm diam. **Lobes** flattened, ± palmately divided, becoming terete only near apices, to 10 mm tall and 0.1-0.2 mm thick, irregularly branched, apices blunt ± furcate, shiny dark brown to black or olive-greenish, gelatinous when wet, with a well-defined cortex of cuboid-rectangular cells. **Apothecia** terminal, globose or flask-like, 0.1-0.5 mm diam., disc concave. **Ascospores** broadly to narrowly ellipsoid 18-22.4 × 6.4-9.6 µm, straight, apices rounded.

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous (coastal rocks)

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (28 March 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).



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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.
- Schultz M. 2017: Morphological and molecular data support *Lichina intermedia* as a distinct austral-marine species in the *L. pygmaea* group. *The Lichenologist* 49(4): 321-332.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lichina-intermedia/>