

Loxospora cyamidia

SYNONYMS

Lecanora cyamidia, Lecanora cyrtospora, Lecanora ochrotropa, Sarrameana cyamidia

FAMILY

Sarrameanaceae

AUTHORITY

Loxospora cyamidia (Stirt.) Kantvilas

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the dingy, creamish white to greyish, continuous to verrucose–papillate thallus; prominent scattered, sessile to subpedicellate apothecia with dark red-brown to somewhat blackened discs, densely covered in grey-white pruina and with persistent, swollen, lecanorine margins concolorous with thallus; the hymenium is interspersed with oil droplets; ascospores are fabiform, curved, apices curved, contents oily–granular, 20–30(–34) × 7–10(–13) μm.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Pureora), to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson (Mt Arthur, West Bay Lake Rotoiti), Marlborough (Queen Charlotte Sound), Canterbury (Avalanche Peak Arthur's Pass, Hawdon River, Craigieburn Ranges), Otago (Lake Ohau, Mt Cargill, Maungatua, Lammermoor Ranges, Catlins). **Stewart Island:** (Port Pegasus). **Auckland Islands:** (Ranui Cove).

The record of *L. cyamidia* from Australia is referable to *L. solenospora*.

HABITAT

Forming distinctive whitish bands or patches on the bark of forest trees and on subalpine scrub, s.l. to 1000 m, sometimes associating with *Pyrrhospora laeta*. Predominantly lowland and coastal, also inland, known from the following phorophytes: *Carpodetus serratus*, *Dracophyllum longifolium*, *D. traversii*, *Melicytus ramiflorus*, *Metrosideros umbellata*, *Lophozonia menziesii*, *Fuscospora cliffortioides*.



DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus dingy grey-white to greenish-grey or creamish, continuous, minutely wrinkled, verrucose-papillate, papillae minute, subglobose, 0.1 mm diam., to minutely areolate-cracked, areolae separated by narrow cracks, 2-6 cm diam., sometimes delimited at margins by a narrow, black prothallus. **Apothecia** sessile or subpedicellate, round to irregular, scattered or crowded, 1.0-2.5 mm diam., disc plane to subconvex-irregular, dark red-brown or black, with a thin to dense grey-white pruina, margins persistent, conspicuous, concolorous with thallus or paler, entire to crenulate-verrucose. **Epithecium** red-brown, 15-17 μm thick. **Hymenium** pale yellow-brown, 50-130(-180) μm tall. **Hypothecium** pale brownish or colourless, 30-60 μm thick. **Paraphyses** filiform, dense, not capitate at apices. **Asci** clavate, 8-spored, with a prominent apical dimple. **Ascospores** spiral in ascus, biseriate, fabiform, curved, apices rounded, contents oily-granular, 20-30(-34) \times 7-10.2(-13) μm .
Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow, Pd-; containing thamnolic acid.

SIMILAR TAXA

Loxospora cyamidia is closely related to *L. solenospora* (the two taxa share an identical thallus chemistry and apothecial tissues interspersed with yellow-brown to red-brown granules that turn yellow as they dissolve in K). Ascospores of the two species are similar but distinctly and disjunctly broader in *L. cyamidia*, which also has a generally more robust thallus, larger apothecia with persistent pruina, and a distinctly lecanorine apothecial margin reminiscent of species of *Ochrolechia*.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/loxospora-cyamidia/>