Maronea constans

FAMILY

Fuscideaceae

AUTHORITY

Maronea constans (Nyl.) Hepp

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen - Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Nο

ENDEMIC GENUS

Nο

ENDEMIC FAMILY

Nο

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk - Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, SO

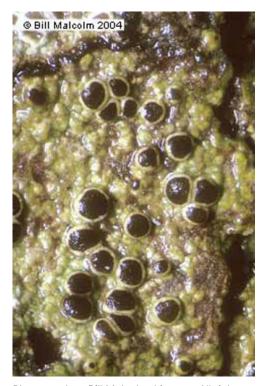
BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the neat, rosette-forming crustose thallus; red-brown apothecial discs with pale margins; a brown epithecium reacting K+ violet-brown; a hyaline hymenium 60–100 µm tall, inspersed with oil droplets; a colourless hypothecium inspersed with oil droplets; and polysporous asci (walls I+ blue) containing 80–100 ascospores.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Canterbury (Canterbury Plains), Otago (Dunedin). Probably more widespread than records show and possibly often mistaken for a species of *Lecanora* or for *Caloplaca homologa* (q.v.). Known also from Europe where it is apparently declining, in Sweden where it is rare or even extinct, in North America, India, Ecuador; Thailand, Australia and Tasmania.

PLANT CONSERVATION NEW YEARS ON SERVATION



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HABITAT

On bark of Magnolia, Quercus, Sorbus etc., on wayside trees and in parks and gardens.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus closely attached, pale green-grey to brownish, granular, orbicular, in ±neat rosettes or spreading, 1–3 cm diam., corticolous. **Apothecia** sessile, to 1.5 mm diam., rounded, ±central, disc red-brown to dull-black, matt, epruinose, margins crenulate, concolorous with thallus or paler. Epithecium brown, 10–15 μm thick, K+ violet-brown. Hymenium colourless, 60-80(-90) μm tall, inspersed with oil droplets, I–. Hypothecium colourless, 30-75 μm thick. **Asci** I+ blue, $40-60 \times 9-15$ μm containing 80-100 spores. **Ascospores** colourless, simple to 1-septate, $3-6(-8) \times 2.5-3$ μm.

Chemistry: Thallus K-, C-. KC-, Pd-; containing sekikaic acid with traces of homosekikaic acid and 4'-O-demethylsekikaic acid.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

Maronea is a cosmopolitan genus of 13 species included in the family Fuscideaceae. One species occurs in New Zealand and is found on the bark of introduced trees in urban and rural areas.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (25 August 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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/maronea-constans/