

Megalaria crispisulcans

FAMILY

Ramalinaceae

AUTHORITY

Megalaria crispisulcans A.J.Marshall, Blanchon et de Lange

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic (?). New Zealand: - North Island (Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty), Chatham Islands (Rekohu / Wharekauri / Chatham Island)

HABITAT

Corticolous and saxicolous on coastal and lowland forests.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Corticolous, sometimes saxicolous lichen. Marginal prothallus usually present, this white, up to 5 mm wide. Thallus effuse, 1.0–1.5 mm thick, composed of aggregated green to olivaceous (grey-brown on storage) coralloid isidia, 0.05–0.07 mm diameter, 0.1–0.5 mm long. Photobiont green, cells irregular, 4–8 μm across. Apothecia solitary to crowded, sessile, sometimes partially hidden within isidia, black, 1.0–2.6 mm diameter, flat to slightly concave with a smooth, thin (0.1–0.2 mm) proper margin, becoming slightly convex and contorted when mature. Hymenium 125–160 μm tall, composed of thin (1.0–1.5 μm wide), simple paraphyses, not or slightly swollen at the apex; separating in K but \pm conglutinate at the epihymenium; epihymenium thin, olivaceous grey (no discernible reaction with K, H, or N). Hypothecium dark brown or blue-black in places, heavily pigmented and indistinct from exciple (N+ red bleeding into hymenium, other tests negative). Ascus Biatora-type, cylindrical, 90–120 \times 30–35 μm ; ascospores 1-septate, broadly ellipsoid, often slightly constricted at septum, 25–30(35) \times (8)12.5–15 μm (n = 38). Exciple cupular, composed of radiating hyphae ca. 1–2 μm wide, 75–150 μm wide laterally, blue-black (K+ green, H+ blue/ green, N+ magenta, cinereorufa-green), outer 5–50 μm hyaline with blue-black pigmentation often bleeding in at base. Conidiomata not observed. Chemistry: K–, C–, Pd–. TLC: negative.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange (2 December 2023). Description from Marshall et al. (2023).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Marshall, A.J.; Blanchon, D.J.; de Lange, P.J.; Wells, S.J.; Fryday, A.M.; Tang, T.; Knight, A. 2023: *Megalaria crispisulcans*, a new isidiate species of *Megalaria* (Ramalinaceae) from Aotearoa / New Zealand. *Perspectives in Biodiversity* 1(1): 25–42.

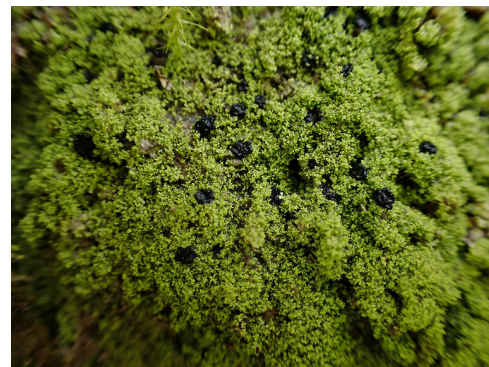
NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/megalaria-crispisulcans/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/megalaria-crispisulcans/>



Corticolous in coastal broadleaf forest, Bream Head Whangārei. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 27/12/2023, Licence: CC BY.



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