

Megalaria grossa

SYNONYMS

Biatorina corroborans, *Biatorina melaclina*, *Biatorina melaclina* f. *melastegia*, *Catillaria corroborans*, *Catillaria intermixta* var. *pallescens*, *Catillaria melaclina*, *Catillaria melaclina* f. *areniseda*, *Catillaria melastegia*, *Catillaria weinmanniae*, *Catinaria grossa*, *Lecidea corroborans*, *Lecidea grossa*, *Lecidea melaclina*, *Lecidea melastegia*, *Patellaria corroborans*, *Patellaria melaclina*

FAMILY

Ramalinaceae

AUTHORITY

Megalaria grossa (Pers. ex Nyl.) Hafellner

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the olive greenish, to creamish buff, areolate, roughened–granular to verrucose thallus; large black apothecia with prominent, flexuous, concolorous proper exciple; an olive-green to blue-black epithecium to 22 µm thick with crystals and oil droplets; a colourless hymenium to 150 µm tall; a thick, blue-black or brown-black hypothecium, 200–250 µm thick; simple paraphyses capitate at their apices; and moderately thick-walled, colourless ascospores (17–)20–34(–38) × 10–14(–18) µm.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland to Wellington. **South Island:** Canterbury to Fiordland. **Stewart Island. Campbell Island.**

Cosmopolitan. Known from the United Kingdom, Western Europe, Scandinavia (where it is red-listed; Arup et al. 1997), North America, Chile, Argentina, Norfolk Island, and Australia.

HABITAT

Widely distributed on bark and twigs of smooth-barked trees and shrubs in lowland forest, especially on *Griselinia littoralis* and *Hoheria*, s.l. to 300 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

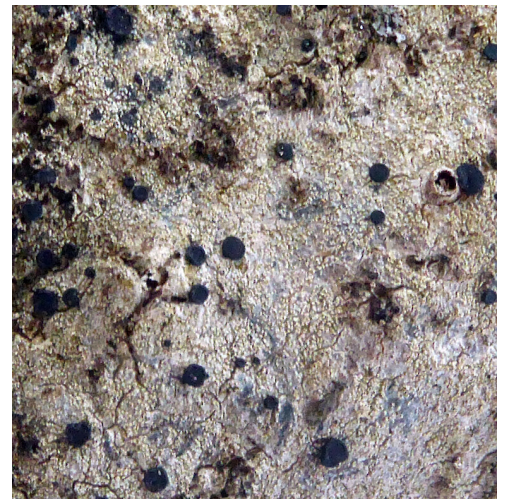
Chemistry: TLC–, all reactions negative.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous



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ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (18 June 2023). 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/megalaria-grossa/>