

Megalospora gompholoma subsp. gompholoma

SYNONYMS

Biatora marginiflexa, *Megalospora marginiflexoides*, *Patellaria gompholoma*

FAMILY

Megalosporaceae

AUTHORITY

Megalospora gompholoma (Müll.Arg.) C.W.Dodge subsp. *gompholoma*

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 presence of pannarin; atrorubicans-type ascospores (1-septate, 1 per ascus, 80–165 × 25–43 µm); dull apothecial discs and with pruina developed in young fruits.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island. South Island. Stewart Island. Auckland Islands. Campbell Island. Chatham Islands. Throughout. *Megalospora gompholoma* ssp. *gompholoma* is the most widely collected species of the genus in New Zealand.

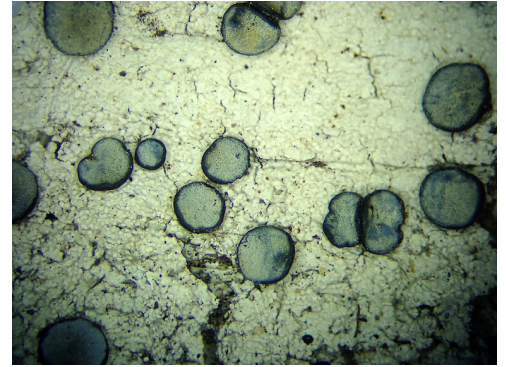
HABITAT

Widespread in forested areas in medium to high light, s.l. to 1100 m. Known from a wide variety of bark substrata: *Dacrydium cupressinum*, *Griselinia littoralis*, *Hoheria populnea*, *Melicytus ramiflorus*, *Metrosideros* spp., *Myrsine australis* and *Nothofagus [Lophozonia] menziesii*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus pale grey to white, rather thick (c. 50–200 µm), wrinkled and irregularly cracked to nearly smooth, occasionally more strongly uneven, densely verrucose, verrucae 0.2–0.3 mm diam., and 0.2–0.3 mm tall, often overgrowing bryophytes on bark, very irregular in shape, soredia and isidia absent. **Apothecia** scattered, 0.8–3.5 mm diam., disc plane or subconvex, black or rarely brown, pale grey-pruinose, dull, margins prominent, thick, black, epruinose or rarely pruinose in a narrow rim around disc, slightly glossy. **Epithecium** olive-green to olive-brown or pale yellow-brown to dark brown or almost black, diffuse, granular in upper part, 7–14(–24) µm thick. **Hymenium** 120–160 µm tall, I+ blue. **Ascospores** 1 per ascus, 1-septate, straight, 80–165 × 25–43 µm, wall 2 µm thick, epispore 1 µm thick, warty.

Chemistry: K–, C–, KC–, Pd+ orange; containing pannarin and zeorin.



Wharariki. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: Public domain.

SIMILAR TAXA

Megalospora gompholoma subsp. *gompholoma* has pannarin; atrorubicans-type ascospores (1-septate, 1 per ascus, 80–165 × 25–43 µm); dull, not glossy apothecial disc and with pruina developed in young fruits, characters which distinguish it from both *M. atrorubicans* ssp. *australis* and *M. campylospora*.

Megalospora gompholoma subsp. *gompholoma* is distinguished from *M. gompholoma* subsp. *fuscolineata* by the orange-brown layer present below the hymenium (subsp. *fuscolineata* has a dark-brown layer present below the hymenium).

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (18 June 2023). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa 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/megalospora-gompholoma-subsp-gompholoma/>