

# Menegazzia aeneofusca

## FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

## AUTHORITY

Menegazzia aeneofusca (Müll.Arg.) R.Sant.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous/muscicolous habit; its ±regular thallus rosettes; the dark colour; and 2-spored asci.

## DISTRIBUTION

**South Island:** Nelson (St Arnaud Range), Canterbury (Godley Valley) east of Main Divide to Otago (Dart River, Old Man Range, Rock & Pillar Range, Dansey's Pass) and eastern foothill ranges at Dansey Pass. **Stewart Island:** (Mt Anglem, Glory Cove). Recently found in Marlborough and Banks Peninsula.

Known also from SE Australia and Tasmania.

## HABITAT

Alpine-subalpine on rocks or amongst mats of *Andreaea*, usually 700-2000 m but recorded at sea level on Stewart Island (Glory Cove).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** ± orbicular, in closely-attached often regular rosettes, or spreading, to 8 cm diam., saxicolous. **Lobes** rather short, to 1.5(-2.0) mm wide, irregularly dichotomously branched, not extended at apices, ± strongly contiguous at margins, ± congested-imbricate centrally, outer lobes smooth, glossy, centrally wrinkled-scrobiculate or corrugate, matt, margins rounded or shallowly incised, olive-green or brown or blackened, sometimes pale green-grey centrally, apices chestnut-brown, glossy, often grey-white-maculate, internal cavity black. **Perforations** rather large, infrequent, to 1 mm long, ± oval, in median line of lobes, plane with surface of lobes. **Lower surface** black, shining, glabrous, markedly scrobiculate, brownish at margins, eperforate. **Apothecia** often frequent, central, 0.5-2.5 mm diam., sessile, rounded, disc concave to ± plane, red-brown to dark brown, shining, epruinose, exciple smooth, shining, ± ridged, margins thick, entire, shining, concolorous with thallus. Epithecium granular, pigmented. **Ascospores** 2 per ascus, smooth, oval 44-52 × 17-20 µm, wall 3 µm thick.

**Chemistry:** Stictic, constictic, norstictic and menegazziaic acids and accessory substances, medulla K+ yellow → orange, C-, KC+ orange, Pd+ orange.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Menegazzia aeneofusca* and its sorediate counterpart *M. castanea* are the only exclusively saxicolous species of the genus. Both occur on alpine and subalpine rocks. *M. aeneofusca* is distinguished by its often ± regular rosettes, the dark colour and the 2-spored asci.



Marlborough. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 27/03/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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## **SUBSTRATE**

Saxicolous

## **ATTRIBUTION**

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (26 June 2021). Information in the 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/menegazzia-aeneofusca/>