

Menegazzia neozelandica

SYNONYMS

Menegazzia circumsorediata, *Parmelia neozelandica*, *Parmelia nigrescens*

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Menegazzia neozelandica (Zahlbr.) P.James

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Menegazzia neozelandica is a distinctive species in having sorediate perforations; soralia are rarely developed elsewhere on the thallus and are always few in number.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Pandora) to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland and Fiordland. **Stewart Island. Chatham Islands:** (Te Pukaha). **Auckland Islands:** (Ewing Island). **Campbell Island. Antarctica.** Known also from Australia (western Tasmania), Argentina and Chile.

HABITAT

Throughout, coastal and inland, on trees, shrubs and fenceposts, s.l. to 1200 m. In New Zealand this species has a wide ecological amplitude, being common in dry *Leptospermum* shrubland as well as in damp, forested areas close to and both E and W of the Main Divide.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus forming regular or irregular, complete or partial rosettes or irregularly encircling twigs and then often fragmentary, loosely to closely attached, 3-5(-8) cm diam. **Lobes** few to numerous, 1-2 mm wide, often discrete at margins or intricately interwoven, zig-zag, often markedly contorted centrally, terminal lobes subdichotomously branched, margins notably sinuous-angular, not, or sparingly blackened, upper and lower surface of internal cavity white. **Upper surface** convex, occasionally where lobes are bunched forming ridges, glaucous or greyish, smooth, slightly glossy. **Perforations** numerous, rather regularly distributed, margins elevated and becoming sorediate, to 0.5 mm diam., in median line. **Soralia** mainly confined to and surrounding perforations, white, finely granular, rarely a few laminal and not associated with perforations. **Apothecia** rare, 2-8 mm diam., ± pedicellate often with ± crenulate and ± sorediate margins, disc brown, shining, subconcave to plane, epruinose, exciple slightly wrinkled, concolorous with thallus. Epithecium not granular. **Asci** 2-spored. **Ascospores** simple, oval to ovoid, 45-56 × 20-32 µm, wall 4-5 µm thick.

Chemistry: Medulla K+ yellow-orange, C-, KC+ orange, Pd+ orange; containing stictic, constictic, norstictic (tr.) and menegazziaic acids, atranorin (cortex) and accessory compounds.



Kauri Point, North Shore, Auckland.
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Kauri Point, North Shore, Auckland.
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SIMILAR TAXA

Menegazzia subpertusa has a similar thallus but this species has a duller, more corrugated surface and the soralia are mostly not associated with the perforations.

The Chilean species *M. wandae* Bjerke (Bjerke 2001) and the Tasmanian species *M. kantvilasii* P. James (James & Galloway 1992) differ from *M. neozelandica* in having pustulate soralia (not associated with laminal perforations) and different chemistries (thamnolic acid in *M. wandae*; stictic acid complex in *M. kantvilasii*).

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, lignicolous (fenceposts)

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (15 March 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Bjerke J.W. 2001: A new sorediate species of *Menegazzia* (*Parmeliaceae*, lichenized Ascomycota) from Chile. *Lichenologist* 33: 117–120.

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.

James P.W. and Galloway D.J. 1992: *Menegazzia*. *Flora of Australia* 54: 213–246.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/menegazzia-neozelandica/>