

Menegazzia nothofagi

SYNONYMS

Parmelia nothofagi

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Menegazzia nothofagi (Zahlbr.) P.James & D.J.Galloway

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A small-lobed rather ragged looking species, with plane to convex lobes, usually green and suffused brownish at apices which also have a white-maculate reticulum ($\times 10$ lens). Soredia arise from bursting of coarse, isidia-like vesicles that may be so numerous as to obscure central parts of the thallus. In some specimens, soredia are not well-developed, but the ruptured vesicles are characteristic.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Kawerua) to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson (St Arnaud Range) to Southland (Edendale Reserve, Waihopai Scenic Reserve), both E and W of the Main Divide. **Stewart Island:** (Butterfields Beach near Oban, Port Pegasus). **Chatham Islands:** (Nikau Scenic Reserve).

HABITAT

From lowland, coastal forest to subalpine vegetation at treeline. Mainly on bark of forest trees (e.g. *Myrsine australis*), on young gymnosperms in *Sphagnum* bogs, rarely on rocks in dry, open *Leptospermum* scrub or among mosses on rocks or on the ground.



Paihia, Northland. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 20/01/2020, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Dunsdale Recreation Reserve, Southland. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 18/11/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus rosette-forming at first, becoming irregular and forming extensive, ragged-edged patches, individual thalli seldom exceeding 5 cm diam., corticolous, rarely saxicolous or terricolous. **Lobes** very numerous, small, delicate and fragile, 0.5-0.8 mm wide and to 5 mm long but usually much shorter, irregularly branched, sometimes subpalmate towards perimeter, mostly closely contiguous throughout entire length, often imbricate centrally and there sometimes \pm ascending, margins sinuous, entire or notched, hollow, lower side of internal cavity blackened, apices \pm elevated, \pm pale brown or red-brown. **Upper surface** concave or plane, shining, pale green-grey or fresh lettuce-green, in exposed situations becoming suffused-brownish, margins not, or only sparingly, blackened, with a faint, white, irregular, incomplete reticulum of maculae ($\times 10$ lens) best seen at apices and margins. **Perforations** numerous, median on main lobes, depressed, oval or rounded, gaping, with an inrolled edge (pertransita-type), 0.2-0.5 mm diam. **Soredia** arising from upper surface and margins of perforations, derived from erosion of isidia-like vesicles. Vesicles at first simple, or several closely contiguous, hollow, nodular, proliferating to form verruciform clusters which eventually cover older parts of thallus, often apically abraded. **Apothecia** not seen. **Chemistry**: Cortex K+ yellow; medulla K+ yellow-orange, C-, KC+ orange, Pd+ orange; containing atranorin, stictic, constictic, norstictic (tr.) and menegazziaic acids.

SIMILAR TAXA

Menegazzia nothofagi is closely related to *M. eperforata*, which has isidia and lacks perforations.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, rarely saxicolous or muscicolous

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

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-nothofagi/>