

Miltidea ceroplasta

SYNONYMS

Bacidia ceroplasta, *Biatora ceroplasta*, *Biatora rubricatula*, *Lecidea ceroplasta*, *Lecidea cinnabaroides*, *Lecidea rubricatula*, *Lecidea rutescens*, *Lecidea subrutila*, *Lecidea venusta*, *Lecidea venustula*, *Miltidea rutescens*, *Miltidea subrutila*, *Miltidea venusta*, *Miltidea venustula*, *Patellaria ceroplasta*.

FAMILY

Miltideaceae

AUTHORITY

Miltidea ceroplasta (C.Bab.) D.J.Galloway & 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; a pale greenish grey, glaucous-green to pale-greyish, continuous, areolate, matt or shining to somewhat minutely white-papillate, crustose thallus; scattered, orange-red to red-brown (K+ purple) apothecia; dense, granular, yellow-brown epithecium (K+ purple); a colourless hymenium 60–85 µm tall, conspicuously interspersed with oil droplets; cylindrical-clavate asci with apical structures, Miltidea-type; and colourless, simple ellipsoidal, halonate, ascospores, 11–25 × 7–9 µm.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Warawara State Forest, Waipoua Forest, Tutamoe, Little Barrier Island, Great Barrier Island), South Auckland (Te Aroha, Kaimai Ranges), Wellington (Horopito, Limestone Plateau NW Ruahine Ranges, Rimutaka Ranges), **South Island:** Nelson (Dun Mountain), Marlborough (Lookout Peak, Ship Cove, d'Urville Island), Canterbury (Broken River), **Stewart Island:** (Noble Island, Islet Cove Port Pegasus).

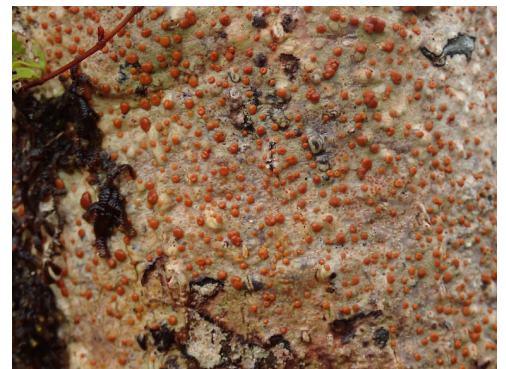
Known also in Tasmania Australia, and from Chile, Sri Lanka, and Argentina.

HABITAT

Throughout, on bark of *Agathis australis*, *Dacrydium cupressinum*, *Griselinia littoralis*, *Knightia excelsa*, *Kunzea ericoides* [*Kunzea* spp.], *Leptospermum scoparium*, *Hoheria*, *Nothofagus menziesii* [*Lophozonia menziesii*], *N. solandri* var. *cliffortioides* [*Fuscospora cliffortioides*], *Weinmannia racemosa*; lowland to subalpine.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus pale greenish-grey, glaucous-green to pale greyish or brownish, ± areolate-cracked, or ± continuous, areolae plane or subconvex, matt or shining, ± translucent in parts, smooth or minutely white-papillate or tuberculate, with numerous minute, reddish, granular apothecial initials(?), in irregular patches 2-8(-10) cm diam. **Apothecia** scattered, single, rarely paired and then deformed through mutual pressure, sessile, 0.1-2.5 mm diam., plane to convex, disc orange-red to red-brown (K+ purple) or rust-red, smooth or minutely granular, epruinose, translucent when wet, margins thin, entire to ± crenulate or verrucose, persistent, or ± excluded at maturity, concolorous with disc or paler. Epithecium dense, granular, yellow-brown, opaque, K+ purple-magenta, 9-15 µm thick. Hymenium markedly interspersed with granules and oil droplets, colourless, 60-85 µm tall. Paraphyses simple, septate, 1-2 µm diam., clavate, brownish, granular at apices and there 3-5 µm diam. **Asci** clavate, 68-75 × 10-14 µm. **Ascospores** uniseriate or biseriate, ellipsoid, ends rounded, (11-)12-21(-25) × (5-)7-9(-11) µm. **Chemistry**: Four unidentified pigments (K+ purple) related to parietin.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (19 January 2022). 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/miltidea-ceroplasta/>