

Notoparmelia cunninghamii

SYNONYMS

Parmelia (Hypotrachyna) brownii

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Notoparmelia cunninghamii (Cromb.) A. Crespo, Ferencova & Divakar

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

Characterised by the firm, shiny thallus; the well-developed linear, marginal soralia and salazinic acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Tutamoe) **South Island:** Nelson to Southland, mainly coastal, though common locally inland East of the Main Divide from Lewis Pass to Fiordland. **Stewart Island. Snares Islands. Auckland Islands. Campbell Island. Antipodes Islands.**

Also in South East Australia and southern South America.

HABITAT

From s.l. to 1000 m in areas of moderately high rainfall – most commonly epiphytic on trees and shrubs in open situations, rarely on rocks.



Corticolous on raukawa in scrubby clearing, Tutamoe Far North. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 22/12/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous on raukawa in scrubby clearing, Tutamoe Far North. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 22/12/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus loosely attached, to 15 cm diam., rather thick, coriaceous, corticolous or saxicolous. **Lobes** rounded to broadly linear-lacinate (12-20 × 5 mm), undulate centrally, margins entire, sinuous or subcrenate, black and shining, often ascending and slightly thickened. **Upper surface** smooth, waxy, often white-pruinose, sometimes coarsely wrinkled, greenish-grey (becoming distinctly yellowish on storage), pseudocyphellae rather few, small, fleck-like, mainly at margins. **Soralia** common, marginal, rarely laminal, globose to linear-confluent, soredia whitish, becoming grey-black with age, rather coarse and granular. **Lower surface** black, rhizinate, often with a smooth, naked, shining, brown marginal zone. **Rhizines** black, simple to squarrosely branched, sparse to dense. **Apothecia** rare, subpedicellate, disc plane to distinctly concave, matt, brown, imperforate, margins entire or shallowly incised, thalline exciple strongly wrinkled and pseudocyphellate, not sorediate. **Ascospores** ellipsoid, 11-15 × 6.5-8.3 µm. **Pycnidia** rare, minute, black, punctiform, towards margins.

Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow; medulla K+ yellow → red, C-, Pd + orange; containing atranorin, chloroatranorin, salazinic acid (major), consalazinic acid (minor) and ±lobaric acid.

SIMILAR TAXA

This taxa has affinities with *Parmelia sulcata* but is distinguished from it by the larger, undulate lobes, the smaller, scattered pseudocyphellae and by the mainly marginal soralia which are not derived from pseudocyphellae.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, rarely saxicolous

ETYMOLOGY

cunninghamii: Named after Allan Cunningham (1791–1839) who was an English botanist and explorer, primarily known for his travels to Australia (New South Wales) and New Zealand to collect plants. Author of *Florae Insularum Novae Zelandiae Precursor*, 1837–40 (Introduction to the flora of New Zealand).

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (25 February 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/notoparmelia-cunninghamii/>