

Pannaria elixii

FAMILY

Pannariaceae

AUTHORITY

Pannaria elixii P.M.Jørg. & D.J.Galloway

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

A variable species. When growing on smooth bark as it frequently does in coastal vegetation of northern New Zealand, it forms regular rosettes of radiating, imbricate rather thin lobes. When growing on rocks, over mosses or on rough bark it forms more irregular and thicker thalli. Development of isidia is also highly variable, from rather sparse and scattered, to densely covering the whole centre of the thallus.

DISTRIBUTION

Kermadec Islands: Raoul Island. **North Island:** Northland (Three Kings Is, Radar Bush, Te Paki, Spirits Bay, Mangonui, Waipoua Forest, Ngaiotonga, Hen & Chickens Is, Whangarei Heads, Tapu Bush N. Kaipara, Great Barrier I., Little Barrier I., Cuvier I.), Auckland (Waitakere Ra., Piha, Rangitoto I.), South Auckland (Whitianga Coromandel Peninsula, Motuwai I., Great Mercury I., Red Mercury I., Slipper I., Whale I.), Wellington (Kaitoke). **South Island:** Marlborough (d'Urville I.), Westland (Lake Kaniere), Otago (Lake Wilkie Catlins).

Known also from Australia.

HABITAT

Mainly coastal and northern on trees (especially *Metrosideros excelsa*) shrubs and rocks, s.l. to 300 m.



Wairere Boulders, Hokianga, Northland.

Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 22/01/2020, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Wairere Boulders, Hokianga, Northland.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus orbicular to irregularly spreading, 2–6(–10) cm diam., closely attached, without a marginal projecting prothallus. **Lobes** narrow, 1–2 mm wide, flabellate–cuneate, rarely discrete to contiguous to imbricate at margins, complex–imbricate centrally, concave at margins to plane or convex. Margins rounded, ±shallowly incised or crenate, often white–tomentose or occasionally ±blackened, noticeably thickened below, becoming densely isidiate towards centre. **Upper surface** pale to dark grey–blue when wet, marginal areas yellow–grey when dry; minutely granular or leprose–scabrid (×10 lens) at margins, smooth subrugose or ridged, often strongly plicate–wrinkled and densely isidiate centrally. Isidia terete, simple, 0.1 mm diam., or less, granular at first becoming gnarled glomerulate, friable, bluish white or greyish, marginal and on interlobe ridges to occasionally scattered on upper surface or densely crowded–congested and forming a diffract–areolate crust centrally, often ±obscuring entire thallus. **Lower surface** pale–buff or whitish in a narrow marginal zone, red–brown to black centrally and short–tomentose at margins with tufts of short brownish to black, squarrose rhizohyphae towards centre. **Apothecia** occasional to rare, often absent, sessile, laminal, rounded to 1.5 mm diam., often obscured by and/or sunk within dense isidiate crust; disc red–brown, matt, proper exciple obscured by persistent, densely isidiate thalline exciple. **Ascospores** 10–15 × 5–8 μm, with wrinkled perispore.

Chemistry: Pd+ yellow–orange; containing vicanicin, norvicanicin and rarely leprolomin and terpenoids; occasionally Pd– (no compounds).

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, rarely saxicolous.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (17 May 2021). Information in the Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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/pannaria-elixii/>