

Pannaria pallida

SYNONYMS

Psoroma pallidum

FAMILY

Pannariaceae

AUTHORITY

Pannaria pallida (Nyl.) Hue

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 corticolous habit; a conspicuous foliose-lobate thallus without a prothallus; discrete, radiating, subdichotomously to irregularly branched, lacinate lobes, 2–5 mm wide and 5–25 mm long, with irregularly notched to knobbly margins; a distinctly roughened-irregular, fibrous upper surface, that is pruinose or tomentose in places; simple globose to glomerulate cephalodia developed at lobe margins or on the lower surface; numerous, clustered apothecia, 0.5–4 mm diam., with red-brown, densely blue-white-pruinose discs that are never gyrose-etched; globose ascospores, 11–15 µm diam., with a 2-µm-thick perispore; and a chemistry containing pannarin. It has a green alga as major photobiont.

There are differences between New Zealand and southern South American material, which may yet lead to the New Zealand taxon being given independent status. However, until further comparisons are made, the New Zealand material is designated *Pannaria* aff. *pallida*.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Nelson (Mt Arthur, Lake Rotoiti), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Cass, Craigieburn Range, Governor's Bush), Otago.

Known also from Argentina and Chile.

HABITAT

On bark and twigs of manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium* agg.), *Fuscospora* and *Phyllocladus* in moderate shade at forest margins.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus foliose-lobate, closely attached centrally, free at margins, without a prothallus, 6-10(-20) cm diam. **Lobes** lacinate, radiating, discrete not imbricate, subdichotomously to irregularly branched, 2-5 mm wide, 6-25 mm long, margins minutely notched, irregular, knobby in parts or in parts entire and sinuous, conspicuously downrolled and thickened. **Upper surface** distinctly roughened-irregular, uneven, cortex fibrous, subplicate in parts, lumpy, pruinose in places or minutely white-tomentose, hairs silky, short, bright green when wet, pale greenish-grey or yellowish-green-glaucous when dry. **Lower surface** white at margins, uniformly thick, buff, tomentose centrally, tomentum striate, of hyphae arranged parallel to the length of the lobes, ± thickly rhizinate centrally. Rhizines short, to 2 mm, simple to squarrose, brown or buff. **Cephalodia** absent from upper surface or rarely developed marginally in older parts of thallus, ± common on lower surface among rhizines and on tomentum, simple, globose, buff or brown, becoming glomerulate-wrinkled. **Apothecia** numerous, clustered, central, rarely marginal, sessile to subpedicellate, 0.5-4.0 mm diam., disc red-brown, smooth, never gyrose-etched or fissured, densely bluish-white-pruinose at first, glabrous at maturity, plane or concave, margins concolorous with thallus, waxy, ± shining, or dull, crenulate-sulcate, ± obscuring disc at first, thalline exciple verrucose-areolate. **Ascospores** globose, 11-15 µm diam., epispore 2 µm thick.

Chemistry: Pd⁺ orange; containing vicanicin, pannarin, dechloropannarin and leprolomin.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ETYMOLOGY

pallida: From the Latin pallidus 'pale or pallid'

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (5 July 2021). Information in the 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/pannaria-pallida/>