

# Pannaria xanthomelana

## SYNONYMS

Psoroma xanthomelanum

## FAMILY

Pannariaceae

## AUTHORITY

Pannaria xanthomelana (Nyl.) Hue

## 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

Characterised by the corticolous (rarely terricolous) habit; the lobate–foliose thallus attached by a thick, black prothallus of entangled, black, simple to squarrose rhizines; flat lobes, 2–4 mm wide, ±dichotomously branched at apices which are sometimes lobulate, white-pubescent to blackened and with projecting, black prothallus; a greenish grey to mustard-yellow, glossy or waxy upper surface; conspicuous placodioid-lobed, bright-blue cephalodia developed marginally and laminally; laminal and marginal apothecia, clustered in conglomerate groups, 1–3 mm diam., the discs, pale to dark red-brown or blackened, faintly white-pruinose, often perforate centrally, and/or with concentric ridges or lobules of thalline tissue; subglobose ascospores, 11–16 µm diam.; and a chemistry containing pannarin. It has a green alga as major photobiont.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** South Auckland (Waipakihi Valley), Wellington (Ruahine Ra., Tararua Ra.). **South Island:** Nelson (Cobb Valley, West Bay, Lake Rotoiti), Canterbury (Margaret's Tarn Arthur's Pass), Southland (Borland Saddle).

**Stewart Island:** (Port Pegasus). **Auckland Islands:** (Enderby Is.).

**Campbell Island:** (Mt Honey, Mowbray Hill).

## HABITAT

Primarily a species of *Fuscospora* forest and on twigs of understorey shrubs. On mossy peat and in rock crevices in fellfield in subantarctic habitats.



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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** lobate-foliose, of elongated laciniae, stellate-radiating, 3-7(-12) cm diam., margins ± free, attached by a thick, black prothallus of entangled, black, simple to squarrose rhizines. **Lobes** ± flat, 2-4 mm wide, ± dichotomously branched at apices, margins slightly thickened, entire to ± lobulate, white-pubescent to blackened, with rhizines often projecting beyond margins. **Upper surface** greenish, mustard-yellow, pale whitish at margins, occasionally blue-black in places, smooth, glossy, waxy, finely white-pubescent at margins. **Cephalodia** infrequent, placodioid-lobed, bright blue when wet, yellowish to bluish when dry, often white-pruinose at margins, smooth, wrinkled-plicate, 1-3 mm wide, rather large, developed at margins and spreading over lamina. **Apothecia** common, laminal and marginal, subpedicellate, round to irregular, often clustered in conglomerate, contorted groups, 1-3 mm wide, disc ± consistently centrally perforate, often also with secondary, partial or complete concentric ridges or lobules of thalline tissue, disc pale red-brown to dark brown or blackened, with well-developed, uneven concentric ridges, ± faint pruinose, margins thick, crenate-striate, concolorous with thallus or blackened. **Ascospores** subglobose 11-16 µm diam.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

## 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-xanthomelana/>