

Parasiphula foliacea

FAMILY

Coccotremataceae

AUTHORITY

Parasiphula foliacea (D.J.Galloway) Kantvilas & Grube

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 terricolous habit; thin, fragile, rather broad lobes; surface pale buff-green or yellowish fawn to creamish fawn, never suffused reddish at margins or apices, texture roughened to verrucose-areolate ($\times 10$ lens) on one side and \pm smooth on the other; and no secondary compounds.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Moehau, Coromandel Range, Kauaeranga Gorge), Wellington (Mokai Patea Ruahine Range, Ruapehu, Waiopahu, Tararua Range). **South Island:** Nelson (Denniston Plateau, Mt Augustus, Stockton Plateau), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Mt Peel), Otago (Mt Brewster Haast Pass, Wills Valley, Stag Pass, Forgotten River, Fohn Saddle, Park Pass, Ocean Peak Humboldt Mts, North Branch Routeburn, North Col, Sugarloaf Saddle, Kea Basin, The Remarkables, Hector Mts, Pisa Range, Old Man Range, Garvie Mountains, Rock and Pillar Range), Southland (Doubtful Sound, Cascade Cove Dusky Sound, Snag Burn Murchison Mountains, Lake Wapiti).
Known also from Tasmania.

HABITAT

On damp, alpine, gravelly or sandy soils or in peat, often inundated, among mosses, 305–2,045 m. It occurs in rock crevices, and on soils subject to periodic inundation, often growing intermixed with species of *Andreaea* and *Siphula fragilis*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus lobes broad, rounded, rather fragile, thin, undulate, margins entire, rounded, very slightly thickened.

Surface pale buff-green or yellowish- or creamish-fawn, never suffused reddish, roughened, minutely but distinctly verrucose-areolate ($\times 10$ lens) on one side and \pm smooth on the other, often crowded together in dense clumps.

Chemistry: TLC–, all reactions negative.

SIMILAR TAXA

Parasiphula foliacea is similar to *P. fragilis* and is often sympatric with it in some habitats, but has thicker lobes, a roughened surface, and is never suffused reddish.



Locally common terricolous lichen in subalpine, Mavora Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 06/03/2023, Licence: CC BY.



Locally common terricolous lichen in subalpine, Mavora Southland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 06/03/2023, Licence: CC BY.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (16 February 2024). 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/parasiphula-foliacea/>