

Parmotrema austrocetratum

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Parmotrema austrocetratum Elix & J.Johnst.

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/saxicolous habit; the development of laminal dactyls, the upper surface becoming deeply areolate, the areolae ultimately flaking off and exposing the white medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Whangarei, Kawau Island), South Auckland (Kauaeranga River Coromandel Peninsula, Waihi Beach, Ohope Beach), Gisborne (Hicks Bay, East Cape), Taranaki (New Plymouth). **South Island:** Nelson (Puponga).

Known also from Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Australia, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island and Lord Howe Island.

HABITAT

On trees and shrubs (twigs) in northern, coastal forest and on coastal rocks.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus loosely attached, pale green-grey to mineral-grey, 6–12 cm diam. **Lobes** rounded, imbricate or not, 10–20 (–30) mm wide, apices often lacinate, the laciniae flat or convex, 0.5–1.5 mm diam., 1–5 (–8) mm long, moderately ciliate, cilia 0.2–1 (–1.5) mm long, simple or sparingly branched. **Upper surface** white-reticulate at first (×10 lens) but becoming markedly cracked to the margins, developing closed, raised dactyls, dactyls ±curved, laminal, ultimately becoming fused with the formation of laminal ridges, older parts of thallus eventually becoming areolate, the areolae flaking off and exposing the white medulla in eroded areas; without isidia or soredia. **Lower surface** black, with a naked, brown, marginal zone 1–2 mm wide; moderately to densely rhizinate, rhizines simple or sparsely branched, slender, black. **Apothecia** rare, pedicellate, to 10 mm diam., disc perforate, pale-tan, concave at first then concave-distorted, margins eciliate, thin, stellate-cracked. **Ascospores** colourless, ellipsoidal, 12–16 × 8–9 μm.

Pycnidia scattered, punctiform, black. **Conidia** filiform, 9–16 × 1 μm.

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

SIMILAR TAXA

It is distinguished from the related *Parmotrema cetratum* by the development of laminal dactyls, in being rarely fertile, more loosely adnate, and by having a distinct, naked brown, marginal zone on the underside of the lobes.



Dactyls, Tawharanui, Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Corticolous, Centennial Park, Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 13/07/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, saxicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (13 December 2021). 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/parmotrema-austrocetratum/>