

Peltigera malacea

FAMILY

Peltigeraceae

AUTHORITY

Peltigera malacea (Ach.) Funck

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the terricolous/muscicolous habit; its broad, very thick lobes, indistinct veins of the lower surface, forming a \pm continuous greyish to blackish or brown-black, felty layer that projects at the margins as an erect, brownish fringe.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Canterbury (Torlesse Range, Godley Valley, Murchison Valley), Otago (Matukituki Valley, Wanaka, W Hunter Valley, Bedford Valley, Earnslaw, Maungatua). Still rather poorly known and collected in New Zealand.

Known also from boreal and arctic zones, less common in temperate lowlands, rare or lacking in oceanic areas of North America, Europe and Asia. It is not known from Australia.

HABITAT

In subalpine to high-alpine grassland and fellfield, among mosses and debris in damp sites, 300–2300 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus rosette-forming to irregularly spreading, 2–5(–8) cm diam. **Lobes** broadly rounded 1–2(–3) cm wide and 4–6 cm long, and 1–1.5 mm thick. Margins entire, slightly thickened below, plane to wavy, inrolled, \pm subascending, without soredia or phyllidia, often with a rim of erect, compact tomentum ($\times 10$ lens). **Upper surface** glabrous, coriaceous, matt or glossy, olive-brownish or greenish brown centrally, suffused dark red-brown towards margins, without soredia or phyllidia, undulate, shallowly wrinkled, here and there with longitudinal cracks or tears. **Lower surface** without veins, \pm continuously felted-tomentose (rarely with a few scattered, white interstitial areas close to margins), pale creamish buff at margins (greyish white in exposed alpine forms) soon becoming greyish to brownish black or \pm blackened centrally. **Rhizines** sparse, widely scattered, short, bushy-tufted, densely fasciculate, 1–3 mm long, black or brown-black to greyish. **Apothecia** not seen.

Chemistry: Gyrophoric acid, methyl gyrophorate, tenuiorin, zeorin, dolichorrhizin and several unidentified triterpenoids.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous



Terricolous, Banks Peninsula Christchurch.
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Terricolous, Banks Peninsula Christchurch.
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ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (3 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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/peltigera-malacea/>