

# Peltula euploca

## SYNONYMS

*Heppia spectabilis*, *Lichen euplocus*

## FAMILY

Peltulaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Peltula euploca* (Ach.) Ozenda & Clauzade

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: RR, SO

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the terricolous/saxicolous habit; orbicular to irregularly lobulate squamules, to 15 mm diam., plane or slightly undulate to strongly convex, the margins generally downrolled and sorediate; attached to the substratum by a central umbilicus; immersed apothecia, many per squamule; asci containing 100 or more ascospores; ascospores ellipsoidal to fusiform, 6–8 × 3–5 µm.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Northland (Hen Island). **South Island:** Marlborough, Canterbury (Mackenzie Country), Otago (Central Otago). **Stewart Island:** (Deceit Peaks). Recently recorded on Banks Peninsula (Hutchison 2020). Known also from Scandinavia where it is rare and threatened in Norway and Sweden, Europe, Africa, Canary Islands, North America, South America and Easter Island, Japan and Australia.

## HABITAT

On acidic rocks, cliff faces or dry soil, coastal and inland in arid areas. In habitats exposed to full sun as well as in partly shaded sites (overhangs) subject to intermittent water flow.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** foliose, peltate, monophyllous, attached to substrate by a central umbilicus, often in ± crowded, congested clumps, saxicolous or terricolous. **Lobes** undulate, shell-like, 7–15 mm wide, margins entire or slightly notched, sinuous, slightly thickened, downrolled, sorediate. **Upper surface** greyish olive-green or olive-brownish, smooth or scabrid, rather coriaceous, sorediate. **Soralia** mainly marginal but also laminal, circular, blue-grey, soredia granular, rather coarse. **Lower surface** smooth, pale buff to brownish-red. Umbilicus ± central, rigid, to 0.4 mm diam.

**Apothecia** many per squamule, immersed, discs punctiform or expanded, to 0.7 mm wide, without a thalline margin.

**Asci** with a gelatinous sheath, 100–120 × 21–27 µm containing 100 or more spores. **Ascospores** ellipsoid to fusiform 6–7.6 × 3–4.5 µm. **Pycnidia** immersed, minute, black. Conidia fusiform 3.4 × 1.5 µm.

## SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous



Banks Peninsula. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 22/01/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Banks Peninsula. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 22/01/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

### ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (2 February 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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.
- Hutchison M. 2020: iNaturalist observation of *Peltula euploca*. <https://inaturalist.nz/observations/54108737>.

### MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/peltula-euploca/>