

Phaeophyscia adiaastola

SYNONYMS

Physcia adiaastola

FAMILY

Physciaceae

AUTHORITY

Phaeophyscia adiaastola (Essl.) Essl.

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

Soralia round to irregular, laminal and submarginal; soredia more finely granular.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Nelson (North-West of Collingwood, Nelson City).

Known also from North America and East and South Africa.

HABITAT

Recorded on trees in a park (Nelson) and on coastal limestone rocks (Collingwood).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus orbicular to irregular, sometimes pulvinate, 2–6(–10) cm diam. **Lobes** irregularly to dichotomously branched, ±linear, (0.3–)0.5–1.5(–3) mm wide, plane to concave, especially at commonly upturned tips; both upper and lower cortices paraplectenchymatous and leptodermatous. **Upper surface** greenish grey to dark-grey or brownish (darker on moistening with water), smooth, sorediate. **Soralia** irregular to occasionally weakly capitate, largely terminal and marginal (also laminal); soredia coarsely granular to isidioid and often becoming loosely aggregated into piles, (40–)60–90(–120) µm diam., concolorous with thallus to slightly paler or distinctly darker. **Lower surface** black, often paler at lobe apices, rhizinate. **Rhizines** numerous, long (to 2 mm) black (sometimes white-tipped), commonly visible from above lobe margins and/or the upturned lobe ends. **Apothecia** occasional, subpedicellate, to 3 mm diam., with rhizines around the base. **Ascospores** *Physcia*-type, (15.5–)17–22.5(–25) × 6–9 µm.

Chemistry: TLC–, all reactions negative.

SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from *P. orbicularis* by its usually more linear lobes and its coarsely granular to isidioid soredia that are located in irregularly delimited, marginal or terminal soralia. *P. orbicularis* has more finely granular soralia located in round to irregular, laminal and submarginal soralia, and this species generally also has somewhat shorter and more rounded lobes.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, saxicolous



Local, saxicolous on limestone boulders, Castle Hill Canterbury. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 29/11/2023, Licence: CC BY.



Local, saxicolous on limestone boulders, Castle Hill Canterbury. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 29/11/2023, Licence: CC BY.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (18 February 2022). 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/phaeophyscia-adiastola/>