

Phlyctis subuncinata

SYNONYMS

Phlyctella abstersa, Phlyctella subuncinata, Phlyctis egentior, Phlyctis egentior var. pallidula

FAMILY

Phlyctidaceae

AUTHORITY

Phlyctis subuncinata Stirt.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; irregular, fleck-like, white, sorediate-leprose patches marking the position of immersed, clustered apothecia; hyaline, fusiform, 7-septate ascospores, 40–72 × 5–7 µm; and stictic acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland. Australasian. Known also from East Australia and Tasmania.

HABITAT

A widely distributed pioneer species on smooth bark.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus spreading in patches, 3-10 cm diam. **Upper surface** pale glaucous or greenish-grey to whitish-buff, granular-leprose, scurfy or furfuraceous, thin, eroded-effuse in parts, white-arachnoid at margins. **Apothecia** very small, 0.1-0.3 mm diam., numerous, scattered, rarely solitary 2- 6(-10) aggregated, innate to ± sessile, disc round to irregular, concave to plane, pale yellow-brown to reddish, translucent, densely white-pruinose, pruina fine, delicately farinose, margins slightly raised, entire, erumpent, densely white farinose-sorediate, macroscopically visible as pale whitish blotches on thallus. **Ascospores** fusiform, 7-septate, slightly curved (40-)45-62(-72) × 5-6(-7) µm.

Chemistry: Thallus K+ yellow; containing stictic and constictic acids and an unidentified compound.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (14 June 2023). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (1985, 2007).



On tree privet in the Waikatō. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 23/02/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.



On tree privet in the Waikatō. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 23/02/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

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/phlyctis-subuncinata/>