

# Poeltiaria coromandelica

## SYNONYMS

*Lecidea coromandelica* Zahlbr.

## FAMILY

Lecideaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Poeltiaria coromandelica* (Zahlbr.) Rambold & Hertel

## 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

A very characteristic taxon forming prominent pale yellow-white or yellow patches on alpine rocks.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** South Auckland (Coromandel Peninsula), Wellington (Ruapehu). **South Island:** Nelson (Denniston Plateau, Cobb Lake), Canterbury (Arthur's Pass, Temple Basin), Southland (Secretary Island, Doubtful Sound, Mt Hodges, Dusky Sound). **Stewart Island:** (Mt Rakeahua, Mt Allen). **Auckland Islands.**

Known also from Australia.

## HABITAT

On siliceous rocks in semi-exposed to exposed subalpine to alpine habitats. Often with the lichen *Labyrintha implexa*.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** rosette-forming or irregularly spreading in patches, 1-3(-10) cm diam., yellow or yellow-white, matt, smooth, often appearing ± broadly squamulose, surface subconvex or plane, without a marginal prothallus.

**Apothecia** conspicuous, solitary or 2-3 confluent, rounded or deformed by mutual pressure, 0.5-1.5 mm diam., disc black, matt, epruinose, plane to convex or undulate, margins thin, entire, slightly raised in young fruits, excluded in older fruits, concolorous with disc. **Epithecium** dark brown or black, 30-45 µm thick. Hymenium 80-100 µm tall, ± bluish. **Hypothecium** thick, ochraceous-brown or blackish. **Ascospores** ellipsoid, apices rounded, straight, 10-12(-15) × 4-6 µm.

**Chemistry:** Cortex K+ yellow, KC+ yellow, C-, Pd-; medulla K-, C-, Pd-; containing usnic acid.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Its vivid-yellow thallus and black apothecia is reminiscent of certain species of *Rhizocarpon*.

## SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous



Arthurs Pass National Park. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 21/02/2020, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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### **ATTRIBUTION**

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (4 August 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa 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.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/poeltiaria-coromandelica/>