

Pseudocyphellaria fimbriatoides

SYNONYMS

Pseudocyphellaria hamatoides, *Stictina fragillima* var. *myrioloba*, *Sticta fragillima* var. *myrioloba*

FAMILY

Lobariaceae

AUTHORITY

Pseudocyphellaria fimbriatoides D.J.Galloway & P.James

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by rather variable though generally broad lobes with conspicuously phyllidiate margins; phyllidia with glistening white marginal hairs; a coriaceous, often glossy upper surface (reminiscent of *Peltigera*), and minutely white-papillate; a white medulla; a cyanobacterial photobiont; a lower surface that is glabrous marginally and pale- to dark-brown tomentose centrally with scattered white pseudocyphellae; and a two-hopane chemistry.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: South Auckland (Coromandel Peninsula) to Cook Strait.

South Island: Nelson to Southland. Both E and W of the Main Divide, s.l. to 1200 m.

HABITAT

A shade-loving species, most commonly collected from low-light, moist, cool habitats on the forest floor (both rocks and soil), at the base of tree trunks and on tree roots deep in the forest interior, or along streambeds. It grows also on damp soil, on shaded rock faces, and can even withstand periodic inundation on streambed boulders.



Hinewai Reserve, Banks Peninsula.

Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 19/10/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Nikau Palm Gully Reserve, Banks Peninsula.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus closely attached, irregularly spreading 5-10(-15) cm diam. **Lobes** very variable, broadly elongate (1 × 5 cm) ± contiguous or discrete to short, rounded, 2-8 mm diam., and ± imbricate, margins slightly thickened, sinuous, notched or incised, to ± densely denticulate-phyllidiate. **Phyllidia** marginal, lobulate, simple to coralloid, delicately white-pubescent. **Upper surface** undulate, dark slate-grey-blue when wet, pale greyish-fawn when dry, smooth, shining or matt, coriaceous, not reticulate-faveolate or areolate-scabrid, without maculae, soredia, isidia or pseudocyphellae. **Medulla** white. **Photobiont** blue-green. **Lower surface** whitish to pale buff and ± glabrous at margins, darkening to ± blackened centrally, tomentose centrally. Tomentum thick, white or buff. **Pseudocyphellae** white, prominent, fleck-like at margins, ± convex centrally, 0.05-0.2 mm diam., scattered, rather sparse to moderately common. **Apothecia** sessile to subpedicellate, rare, laminal or submarginal, sparse to moderately abundant in some collections, concave to plane, disc red-brown to dark brown, shining, epruinose, 0.2-1.5 mm diam., margins pale flesh-coloured, entire to subcrenate, verrucose-scabrid, persistent, often obscuring disc in young fruits. **Ascospores** uniseriate or biseriate, colourless to pale yellowish-brown, 1-3-septate, ellipsoid, with pointed ends, 20.4-27.2 × 6.8-8.3 µm.

Chemistry: 7β-acetoxypopane-22-ol, hopane-7β, 22-diol (tr.), hopane-15α,22-diol.

SIMILAR TAXA

It is separated from *P. dissimilis* by the delicately tomentose or pubescent phyllidia. It is distinguished from *P. chloroleuca* by the densely tomentose, chocolate-brown or blackish lower surface, simple isidia, and C- medulla (*P. chloroleuca* has a glabrous, glossy, pale pinkish white lower surface; ± coralloid isidia; and C+ rose medulla).

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous, terricolous (damp rocks and soil), corticolous (base of tree trunks)

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (28 March 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/pseudocyphellaria-fimbriatoides/>