

# Pseudocyphellaria pubescens

## SYNONYMS

*Lobaria pubescens*, *Sticta grandis*, *Sticta muelleriana*, *Sticta pubescens*

## FAMILY

Peltigeraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Pseudocyphellaria pubescens* (Müll.Arg.) 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 linear-elongate to rounded, thick, coriaceous lobes with entire to crenate margins that are often tomentose; a coarsely scabrid-areolate upper surface, wrinkled, pitted to irregularly faveolate, glabrous to entirely tomentose; a white medulla; a green algal photobiont; a densely tomentose lower surface with conspicuous, yellow pseudocyphellae; marginal pedicellate apothecia the disc dark red-brown to black, grey- to white-pruinose when young; ascospores grey-brown, thickened, 1–3-septate; and a chemistry containing hopane triterpenoids, pigments, depsidones and metabolites of the stictic acid complex.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Gisborne (Lake Waikaremoana), Hawke's Bay (Kaweka Ranges), Wellington (Kaimanawa Ranges). **South Island:** Nelson (Cobb Valley) to Fiordland. Close to and E of the Main Divide, montane to subalpine, 200–1050 m.

## HABITAT

Primarily a forest species in cool, humid habitats with moderate light and high rainfall, Mainly an epiphyte of *Fuscospora* (red, mountain and silver beech), it often forms very large rosettes (up to 25 cm diam.) in open beech forest, close to or at forest margins.



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Underside. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** rather loosely attached, 5-15(-25) cm diam., ± orbicular, rosetteforming to spreading. **Lobes** rather thick, elongate-laciniate, to 10 mm wide, subdichotomously branching, margins entire or variously notched or incised, ± sinuous, distinctly thickened, conspicuously white-pubescent, without soredia, isidia or phyllidia. **Upper surface** bright lettuce-green when wet, pale yellowish-brown or buff when dry, smooth, coriaceous, ± distinctly reticulate-faveolate, ridges low, smooth, slightly scabrid centrally, ± pubescent or short, white-tomentose marginally and often also laminally, tomentum often abraded in patches, without soredia, isidia or pseudocyphellae. **Medulla** white. **Photobiont** green. **Lower surface** densely tomentose to margins, pale buff marginally, dark brown centrally. **Pseudocyphellae** yellow, conspicuous, large. **Apothecia** marginal or submarginal, subpedicellate, to 8 mm diam., disc shallowly concave, matt, black, with a fine, grey-white pruina in young fruits, margins pale flesh-coloured, entire at first, becoming distinctly incised-coronate, thalline exciple coarsely verrucose-areolate. **Ascospores** brown, 1-septate, 20-35 × 5-8(-10) µm.

**Chemistry:** Methyl evernate (tr.), tenuiorin (major), methyl lecanorate (tr.), methyl gyrophorate, gyrophoric acid (tr.), hopane-15 $\alpha$ ,22-diol, hopane-6 $\alpha$ ,7 $\beta$ ,22-triol, norstictic (tr.), salazinic(tr.), stictic (major), cryptostictic (tr.), menegazziac (tr.) and constictic (minor) acids and traces of pulvinic acid, pulvinic dilactone and calycin.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (13 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Similar taxa sections copied from Galloway (1985) & Galloway (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-pubescentis/>