

Punctelia subrudecta

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Punctelia subrudecta (Nyl.) Krog

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A very polymorphic species, with a pale lower surface; non-pseudocyphellate lobe margins; round to slightly elongate and often sparse pseudocyphellae; mainly laminal soralia, and marginal soralia absent or present only at the sinuses of secondary lobes.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland.

Stewart Island.

Known also from Great Britain, Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, North and South America, and Australia.

HABITAT

Widespread in lowland (rural and urban) habitats – common on introduced trees in parks, gardens and on farms, on decorticated wood (fence posts, railings and gates) and on rock, especially in eutrophicated (high nitrogen) and polluted environments. A good indicator of disturbed and eutrophicated habitats.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus orbicular to spreading, loosely attached, 5-10(-15) cm diam., corticolous or saxicolous. **Lobes** rounded, dissected, crowded, margins sinuous, entire, darkening, becoming sorediate. **Upper surface** greenish-grey to greenish-blue, matt, shining at margins which are often suffused brownish, conspicuously wrinkled, with scattered, punctiform pseudocyphellae towards centre, becoming copiously sorediate. **Soredia** irregular, coarse, granular, greenish-brown to blackish, derived from pseudocyphellae. **Lower surface** pale yellowish-buff or buff-brown or whitish, smooth or wrinkled, shining, sparsely rhizinate. **Rhizines** simple, pale, often to the margins. **Apothecia** maculae and pycnidia not seen in New Zealand material.

Chemistry: Cortex K+ yellow; medulla K-, C+ red, KC+ red, Pd-. Lecanoric acid and atranorin.



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



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

SIMILAR TAXA

Punctelia subrudecta is related to *P. borreri*, but differing in the pale lower surface; the distinctly non-pseudocyphellate margins to the lobes; round to slightly elongate and often sparse pseudocyphellae; mainly laminal soralia, marginal soralia absent or present only at sinuses of secondary lobes; and in having lecanoric acid as major medullary constituent. Conidia in this species are very short and unciform (4–6 µm long), a character that distinguishes it from *P. perreticulata*.

SUBSTRATE

Corticolous, saxicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (15 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.
- Longán A., Barbero M., and Gómez-Bolea A. 2000: Comparative studies on *Punctelia borreri*, *P. perreticulata* and *P. subrudecta* Parmeliaceae, lichenized Ascomycotina from the Iberian Peninsula. *Mycotax* 74(2): 367–378.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/punctelia-subrudecta/>