

# Pyrenula nitidula

## SYNONYMS

Verrucaria dealbata C.Knight, Verrucaria glabrata var. cinereoalba C.Knight, Verrucaria inflata Stirt., Pyrenula cinereoglauca Zahlbr., Pyrenula dealbata (C.Knight) Müll.Arg.

## FAMILY

Pyrenulaceae

## AUTHORITY

Pyrenula nitidula (Bres.) R.C.Harris

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the corticolous habit; the whitish thallus; prominent black perithecia; and 3-septate ascospores, (15–)17–22(–25) × (8.5–)10–12 µm.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Northland to Wellington. **South Island:** Otago (Port Chalmers).

## HABITAT

Lowland and coastal on twigs of shrubs in open situations.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** epi- or endophloeodal, greyish-white, pale greenish-white to yellowish-white, or ± lacking of effuse, matt or slightly roughened, often ± waxy, continuous or irregularly to coarsely areolate-cracked, in irregular patches, 1–5(–8) cm diam., delimited at margins by a narrow, irregular, black line. Perithecia frequent and conspicuous, emergent, 0.5–1.8 mm diam., discrete, rarely 2–3- confluent, rounded, flattish to distinctly convex, subglobose and even slightly constricted at base in specimens where cortex is eroded or lacking, pale whitish at first, obscured by a thin covering of cortical cells, then black, matt or shining, sometimes eroding and leaving small pits. **Ostiole** central, depressed, gaping or papillate. **Pycnidia** minute, black, punctiform, scattered. **Ascospores** uniseriate, oblong-ovoid, lemon-shaped, (15.3–)17–22(–25) × (8.3–)10.2–11.9 µm.

**Chemistry:** Cortex K+ yellow-dirty brown. TLC-.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (14 January 2024). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (1985) & Galloway (2007).



Corticolous on fallen tree privet, St John's Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 08/03/2020, Licence: CC BY.



Corticolous on fallen tree privet, St John's, Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 08/03/2020, Licence: CC BY.

## 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/pyrenula-nitidula/>