

Ramalina fimbriata

FAMILY

Ramalinaceae

AUTHORITY

Ramalina fimbriata Krog & Swinscow

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Fruticose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, SO, Sp

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit; the small, fragile, button-like thalli; inflated branches; and large soredia produced from the disintegrating lower cortex.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Otago (Old Man Range, Mt Benger, Teviot River below Lake Onslow Dam, Boundary Creek near Lake Onslow, ridge between Lake Onslow & upper Taieri River, Stony Creek, Old Dunstan Road, Rock & Pillar Range, Nenthorn, The Pyramids Otago Peninsula, Black Head Dunedin, Kuriwao). Recently recorded on Banks Peninsula (Hutchison 2019).

Known also from East Africa.

HABITAT

On high-alpine to coastal rocks (schist in alpine areas, basalt at coast), 15-1,600 m, under dry, sheltered, overhanging ledges, and cave-like erosion hollows 1-3 m above ground level in the sides of schist tors [growth is mainly on the ceilings of these caves, to a lesser extent on the walls, and sparsely on the floors of some only – associating with *Caloplaca lutea*, *Lecanora bicincta*, *L. cavicola*, *L. rupicola* and *L. swartzii* in these microhabitats and on vertical, narrow stream sides; a rare and restricted species in New Zealand.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus saxicolous, green-grey to yellow-green, caespitose, button-like, small, to 8 mm tall, branching dense and complex producing small branchlets apically. **Branches** 0.3–1.2 mm wide, flat to subterete, somewhat inflated, rarely producing slit-like perforations. **Surface** shining to matt, smooth to slightly wrinkled. **Holdfast** diffuse. **Soralia** present, formed from disintegration of lower cortex, occurring laminally and at apices; soredia large, granular, yellowish. **Apothecia** rare, terminal (Nenthorn material).

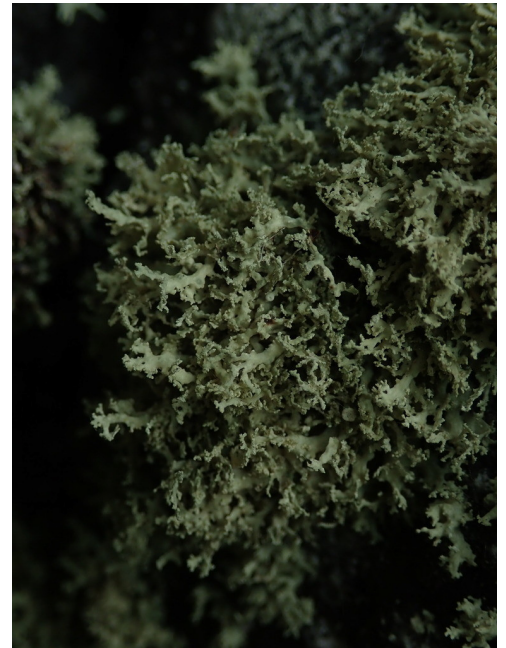
Chemistry: Medulla K–; containing usnic and divaricatic acids.

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous.



Saxicolous on basalt, Port Hills Canterbury.
Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken:
11/05/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Saxicolous on basalt, Port Hills Canterbury.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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ETYMOLOGY

ramalina: Meaning small branches, twiggy.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (1 February 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features sections copied from Galloway (2007).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Galloway D.J. 2007: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens, including lichen-forming and lichenicolous fungi*. 2nd edition. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press. 2261 pp.

Hutchison M. 2019: iNaturalist observation. <https://inaturalist.nz/observations/24924411>. Date accessed: 7 June 2023.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ramalina-fimbriata/>