

Rinodina thiomela

SYNONYMS

Lecanora thiomela

FAMILY

Physciaceae

AUTHORITY

Rinodina thiomela (Nyl.) Müll.Arg.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous habit; the prominent sulphur-yellow thallus; cryptolecanorine to lecanorine apothecia with a brown-black to black disc; *Pachysporaria*-type ascospores with a thinly developed torus, 20–34 × 11–17 µm.; and a chemistry dominated by xanthones (see above). It is possible that more than one species is involved in this circumscription.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (Great Barrier Island), Auckland, Gisborne (Mt Hikurangi), to Wellington (Kapiti Island, Titahi Bay, Hongoeka Bay, Mirimar Peninsula, Scorching Bay). **South Island:** Nelson (Kaihoka Lakes, Mt Benson, Cobb Valley, Mt Arthur, Cable Bay), Marlborough (Goose Bay, Whites Bay, Halfmoon Bay, Kaikoura), Canterbury (Sugarloaf, Cass, Cave Stream, Hanmer Springs, Devil's Gap, Monument Banks Peninsula, Port Hills Christchurch, Kaitorete Spit, Rangitata Valley, Mt Peel), Otago (Matukituki Valley, Harris Saddle, Routeburn Valley, The Remarkables, Old Man Range, Poolburn, Stoneburn, Alexandra, Cromwell Gorge, Silver Peaks, Mt Charles, Otago Peninsula, Otago Heads, Maungatua, Akatore, Catlins), Southland (Howell's Point, Riverton). **Stewart Island:** (Easy Harbour, Christmas Village, Maori Beach, Halfmoon Bay, Port Pegasus). **Chatham Islands:** (Owenga, Hokopai Hill). **Auckland Islands:** (Port Ross). **Campbell Island. Antarctica:** ("Tilted Crag").

Also common on siliceous rocks in SE Australia and Tasmania.

HABITAT

On coastal and upland to high-alpine rocks, s.l. to 1600 m.



Port Hills, Christchurch. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 22/06/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Port Hills, Christchurch. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 22/06/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus sulphur-yellow to green-yellow, granular, continuous, rimose-areolate, prothallus blackish, saxicolous.

Apothecia cryptolecanorine to lecanorine, innate to adnate or sessile, scattered or frequent and contiguous, to 0.5 mm diam., disc brown-black or black, concave to plane, margins entire, concolorous with thallus. Hymenium 120-150 µm tall, upper parts inspersed. Epihymenium red-brown, with a fine, granular epipsamma. Hypothecium colourless. **Ascospores** of *Pachysporaria*-type, asci often only with with 4-6 spores, torus very thinly developed, 20-34 × 11-17 µm.

Chemistry: Zeorin and a series of xanthenes including thiomelin, 8-O-methylthiomelin, 4-dechlorothiomelin, 2-dechloro-8-methylthiomelin, 4-dechloro-8-O-methylthiomelin, northiomelin, 2-dechlorothiomelin and 5,7-dichloro-2,8-dihydroxy-1,3-dimethyl-9H-xanthen-9-one.

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (30 January 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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/rinodina-thiomela/>