

# Trapelia coarctata

## SYNONYMS

Lichen coarctatus, Lecidea coarctata var. exposita Nyl., Lecanora coarctata var. exposita (Nyl.) Nyl.

## FAMILY

Trapeliaceae

## AUTHORITY

Trapelia coarctata (Turner ex Sm.) M.Choisy

## 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 smooth, uniform, to minutely areolate, pale-greenish to brownish thallus; the small, scattered, pale red-brown, epruinose, subinnate to emergent, sessile apothecia, with an adhering pseudothalline margin derived from its eruption through the thallus; and ellipsoidal ascospores, 14–17(–21) × 7–10 µm.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Northland (Three Kings Islands, Little Barrier Island), Auckland (Waitakere coast), South Auckland (Motuhora Island), Wellington. **South Island:** Marlborough (Ship Cove), Canterbury (Hawdon River), Otago (Old Man Range, Lake Onslow, Mt Teviot, Moa Flat, Rock & Pillar Range, Leith Valley, Mt Cargill, "Green Island Bluff", Southland (Lake Monowai, Blackmount near Clifden). **Stewart Island:** (Deceit Peaks). Known also from Great Britain, Europe, Scandinavia, Morocco, Turkey, North America, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, India, Japan, Indonesia, Marion Island, South Georgia, South Shetland Islands, and Australia.

## HABITAT

On rocks and soil, coastal and inland, on exposed soil in eroded tussock grassland, and on depleted grassland soils associating with *Cladia inflata* agg., *Diploschistes muscorum* ssp. *bartlettii*, *Endocarpon pusillum*, *Siphula coriacea*, *Xanthoparmelia semiviridis*; often on recently exposed roadside cuttings or slips, commonly associating with sorediate species of *Placopsis*.



Saxicolous on basalt rock wall, Cornwall Park Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.



Saxicolous on basalt rock wall, Cornwall Park Auckland. Photographer: Marley Ford, Licence: CC BY.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** rather smooth, green-white, grey or brown often tinged pinkish, continuous, cracked-areolate or with areolae dispersed and ± squamulose at margins. **Apothecia** 0.2-2 mm diam., round, scattered, disc red-brown to brown- black, ± roughened, sometimes with a pseudothalline margin caused by its eruption through the thallus, part of which may remain adhering. **Ascospores** ellipsoid, 14-17 × 7-10 µm.

**Chemistry:** Thallus K-, C+ red, KC-, Pd-; containing gyrophoric acid.

The lichenicolous fungus \**Sphaeria sociella* was described as a parasite of *T. coarctata*. It has scattered, globose to pyriform, black perithecia, 100–200 µm diam.; 4-spored asci; and colourless, thin-walled, 1–3-septate ascospores, 10–12(–15) × 3–4 µm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

It is closely related to *Placopsis* but differs mainly in the absence of cephalodia.

## SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (3 November 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, and Features 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/trapelia-coarctata/>