

# Varicellaria velata

## SYNONYMS

*Parmelia velata* Turner., *Pertusaria obvelata* Nyl., *Pertusaria velata* (Turner) Nyl.

## FAMILY

Pertusariaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Varicellaria velata* (Turner) Schmitt & Lumbsch

## 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 corticolous/saxicolous habit; disc-like apothecia (occasionally 2-spored asci are found in NZ material, though generally asci have only 1 spore) with pruinose to sorediate discs, and the presence of lecanoric acid.

## DISTRIBUTION

**South Island:** Nelson (Cobb Dam, Flora Saddle, Maruia Springs, Lewis Pass), Canterbury (Craigieburn Range), Otago (Black Head, Green Island).

Widespread with a pantropical and temperate distribution. Known also from Europe, Asia, China, North and South America, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

## HABITAT

On bark of *Fuscopora*, and on coastal, basalt rocks.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** greyish white to off-white, slightly cracked and areolate, surface smooth to slightly wrinkled, dull, without soredia or isidia. **Apothecia** disc-like, numerous, scattered or crowded, concolorous with thallus, 0.5–1 mm diam., discs pale to dark reddish brown, slightly to densely white-pruinose. **Ascospores** 1 per ascus (rarely 2 per ascus), ellipsoidal, smooth, thin-walled, 100–200(–275) × (10–)30–45 (–60) μm, wall to 5 μm thick.

**Chemistry:** K–, KC+ orange-red, C+ red, Pd–; containing lecanoric acid (major), gyrophoric acid (tr.), orsellinic acid (tr.), ±lichexanthone (tr. to major)

## SIMILAR TAXA

This species is similar to *V. cacuminum* in having large ascospores in mono-spored asci, but differs, primarily, in its corticolous habit.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous



### **ATTRIBUTION**

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (3 October 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.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/varicellaria-velata/>