

Xanthoparmelia reptans

SYNONYMS

Parmelia reptans, *Xanthoparmelia amphixantha*

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Xanthoparmelia reptans (Kurok.) Elix & J. Johnst.

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the terricolous habit; dichotomously to subdichotomously branching lobes with a canaliculate lower surface, and forming small rosettes on soil; and by fumarprotocetraric acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Marlborough (Molesworth), Canterbury (Culverden, N of Wakari, Balmoral, Lake Heron, Twizel, N of Hakatamea Pass, Lake Tekapo, Lake Pukaki, Lake Ohau, Meyer's Pass near Waimate), Otago (Ahuriri River near Omarama, Lindis River near Cluden, Tarras, Cromwell, Alexandra, Raggedy Range).

Known also from soil in drier areas of Australia.

HABITAT

On exposed soil in depleted, arid grassland, montane and subalpine, to 1200 m. A common member of xeric lichen communities in these habitats, together with *Cladia aggregata*, *Siphula coriacea*, *Xanthoparmelia concomitans*, *X. molliuscula*, *X. semiviridis* and *X. sorediata*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus loosely attached, 1-3 cm diam., rosette-forming, **lobes** convex, 0.5-2 mm wide, subterete towards apices, sublinear-elongate, subdichotomously to irregularly branched, often imbricate, \pm separated near margins of thallus, margins entire, apices brown-tipped. **Upper surface** greenish-yellow, smooth, \pm maculate especially at lobe apices, simple or sparingly branched black rhizines, 1-2 mm long, sometimes present, apices of lobes sometimes pseudosorediate, isidia absent. **Lower surface** brownish to pale yellowish-brown, smooth, often shining, weakly faveolate or subcanaliculate, sparsely to moderately rhizinate. Rhizines black, simple or sparingly branched, 1-3 mm long. **Apothecia** and pycnidia not seen.

Chemistry: Cortex K⁻; medulla K⁺ red-brown, C⁻, KC⁻, Pd⁺ red; containing \pm succinprotocetraric, fumarprotocetraric, \pm protocetraric (tr.), \pm physodalic (tr.) and usnic acids.



McLeans Island Dry Grasslands Park, Christchurch. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 16/09/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



McLeans Island Dry Grasslands Park, Christchurch. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 16/09/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

SIMILAR TAXA

Xanthoparmelia molliuscula can look similar and often occupies the same dryland habitats, but that species is characterised by the revolute lobes; a pale lower surface; development of highly branched subterete to cylindrical lobules in the centre of the thallus; and the presence of the stictic acid complex in the medulla.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (22 September 2021). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features, and Extra information 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/xanthoparmelia-reptans/>