

Xanthoparmelia taractica

SYNONYMS

Parmelia taractica

FAMILY

Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Xanthoparmelia taractica (Kremp.) Hale

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the saxicolous/terricolous habit; a densely entangled mat-forming thallus, predominantly on soil; broad, subrotund lobes; a pale and densely rhizinate lower surface; and salazinic acid in the medulla.

DISTRIBUTION

South Island: Canterbury (Selwyn Gorge – T.W.N. Beckett, May 1894), Otago (Alexandra, Observation Point, Manorburn Reservoir). Recently recorded on Banks Peninsula (Glenny 2022). Still very poorly collected in New Zealand.

Palaeotropical. Known also from Australia, Mexico and southern South America.

HABITAT

On rocks and soil overlying rocks in arid grassland.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Thallus loosely to moderately adnate on soil or occasionally on rocks, 7–10 cm diam. **Lobes** variably often forming an entangled mat, ±plane, subirregular to linear-elongate, primary and marginal lobes subdichotomously branched, 2–4(–8) mm wide, with subrotund apices, 0.5–1.5 mm wide, without lobules. **Upper surface** yellow-green darkening with age, glossy, emaculate, smooth to slightly wrinkled, and developing cracks in older parts, without isidia or soredia. **Lower surface** wrinkled, papillate, often glossy, pale-brown to brown, darker centrally, rhizinate. **Rhizines** moderately dense, especially near margins, simple, often tufted, rarely dichotomously branched, slender, concolorous with lower surface. **Apothecia** occasional, sessile, 3–6 mm diam., disc concave to plane, red-brown; thalline exciple wrinkled, entire, thick, involute to crenulate. Ascospores 8–10 × 5–6 µm. **Pycnidia** common. **Conidia** bifusiform, 5–7 × 0.5 µm.

Chemistry: Cortex K–; medulla K+ yellow→dark-red, KC+ red, Pd+ orange; containing salazinic, consalazinic and usnic acids.

SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous, terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (16 June 2023). 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.

Glenny D. 2022: iNaturalist observation. <https://inaturalist.nz/observations/110123002>. Date accessed: 16 June 2023.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/xanthoparmelia-taractica/>