

# Yarrumia colensoi

## SYNONYMS

*Lobaria colensoi*, *Lobaria colensoi* f. *pinnatifida*, *Pseudocyphellaria colensoi*, *Pseudocyphellaria neozelandica*, *Sticta colensoi*, *Sticta colensoi* f. *pinnatifida*, *Sticta colensoi* var. *pinnatifida*, *Sticta urvillei* var. *colensoi*

## FAMILY

Lobariaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Yarrumia colensoi* (C.Bab.) D.J.Galloway

## 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 linear-elongate to broadly rounded lobes, with irregular notched, ragged and often deeply incised margins; an undulate, pitted to reticulate-faveolate upper surface with marginal and laminal isidia scattered in groups or lines on ridges and thallus breaks; flattened, bifurcate to coralloid, verruciform-granular isidia abrading apically and appearing yellow; a yellow medulla; a green photobiont; a wrinkled to bullate, thinly tomentose lower surface with scattered yellow pseudocyphellae; large, pedicellate apothecia with eroded-isidiate margins; colourless to brown, 1–3-septate ascospores, 27–41 × 9–11 µm; and a chemistry dominated by stictanes giving a yellow acetone extract. It may be parasitised by the lichenicolous fungus *Scutula miliaris* (q.v.). Extremely large specimens are known (to 30 cm diam.), and it is widely used for craft dyeing.

## DISTRIBUTION

**North Island:** Auckland (Rangitoto Island) S to Wellington. **South Island:** Nelson to Southland, both E and W of the Main Divide, coastal and inland. **Stewart Island:** (Mt Anglem to Port Pegasus). Known also from E New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania

## HABITAT

A common epiphyte of trees and shrubs in a variety of habitats, e.g. northern coastal forest, lowland podocarp-hardwood forest, upland beech *Nothofagus* [*Fuscospora*] forest, *Leptospermum* scrub, and lowland to subalpine scrub, s.l. to 1500 m. Although most luxuriantly developed on tree trunks, it also colonises twigs and small branches. Preferring medium-to-high light intensities it is thus best developed in open rainforests, at forest margins, and in the forest canopy.



Braeburn walk, Lake Rotoroa. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 14/01/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Braeburn walk, Lake Rotoroa. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 14/01/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

**Thallus** orbicular to spreading often ± pendulous, 8-20(-30) cm diam. **Lobes** rounded to linear-enlongate, 10-25 mm wide, to 12 cm long, ± irregularly incised, margins often notched or crenulate, ± ragged or with coarse to verruciform-granular to flattened isidia. **Upper surface** bright green or yellowish-green or tinged pale bluish-green when wet, pale greenish-grey when dry, slightly undulate to very shallowly faveolate, matt or glossy, minutely scabrid-areolate (×10 lens), occasionally cracked, lacerate, isidiate. Isidia coarse, verruciform-granular or subcoralloid, abraded at apices and exposing yellow, medulla, appearing ± sorediate, marginal and laminal. **Medulla** yellow. **Photobiont** green. **Lower surface** thinly white-tomentose, ± bullate, pale yellowish-buff. Cephalodia in prominent rounded warts. **Pseudocyphellae** numerous, yellow, crowded, raised in verrucae, 0.1-0.2 mm diam. **Apothecia** sparse to frequent, 2-10 mm diam., pedicellate, laminal, rarely marginal, disc red-brown, concave to plane, matt, often fissured, with eroded, verruciform-isidiate margins, thalline exciple prominent, pale, verrucose-areolate. **Ascospores** 1-3-septate, colourless, fusiform-ellipsoid (30-)34-40 × 8-11 µm. **Chemistry:** Pulvinic acid, pulvinic dilactone, calycin, polporic acid, 2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,22 $\alpha$ -triacetoxystictane, 22 $\alpha$ -hydroxystictane-3-one, 2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ -diacetoxystictane-22-ol, stictane-3 $\beta$ ,22 $\alpha$ -diol, 2 $\alpha$ -acetoxystictane-3 $\beta$ ,22 $\alpha$ -diol, 3 $\beta$ -acetoxystictane-2 $\alpha$ ,22 $\alpha$ -diol and stictane-2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,22 $\alpha$ -triol.

## SIMILAR TAXA

It is distinguished from *Yarrumia coronata* and *Podostictina degelii* by the marginal and laminal verruciform-granular isidia and by the ragged, linear-laciniate lobes.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous (bark)

## ETYMOLOGY

**colensoi:** Named after William Colenso (7 November 1811 - 10 February 1899) who was a Cornish Christian missionary to New Zealand, and also a printer, botanist, explorer and politician.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Melissa Hutchison (2 February 2022). Brief description, Distribution, Habitat, Features and Similar taxa 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/yarrumia-colensoi/>