

Cladia muelleri

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, SO

CATEGORY

Lichen

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Foliose

LICHEN SUBSTRATE

Terricolous (soil)

SUBSTRATE DETAILS

Terricolous

THREATS

Studies by Blackman et al. (1973) outline that *Cladia muelleri* distribution is determined by rainfall, requiring between 300 and 1200 mm per year. Based on this, most of New Zealand is too wet for this species but there are large drier regions such as Central Otago where this species could also be present (Murray, 1962–1963; Blackman et al., 1973). However, some of the existing previous population of this species in New Zealand were in areas of higher rainfall so the habitat (e.g. dunes) could also be an important factor in this species' distribution. Further searching for this species should be undertaken in New Zealand as it is likely this threatened lichen is more widespread.

GENUS

Cladia

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Cladia muelleri (Hampe) Parnmen & Lumbsch

SYNONYMS

Sticta muelleri Hampe, *Heterodea muelleri* (Hampe) Nyl.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

muelleri: Named after Baron Ferdinand von Mueller, 19th century German/Australian botanist and founder of the National Herbarium of Victoria



Terricolous in gravel, Putauaki Bay of Plenty.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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Terricolous in gravel, Putauaki Bay of Plenty.
Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken:
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REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- Blackman AJ, Bratt GC, Cashin JA. 1973: Distribution and Chemistry of *Heterodea muelleri* (Hampe) Nyl. *Bryologist*: 410– 413.
- Ford M. 2024: The threatened lichen *Cladia muelleri* rediscovered on the New Zealand mainland. *Trilepidea* 240: 5–7.
- Galloway D.J. 1985: *Flora of New Zealand: Lichens*. Wellington: PD Hasselberg, Government Printer. 662 pp.
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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cladia-muelleri/>

PDF DATE

07 June 2026