

Notocladonia cochleata

SYNONYMS

Ramalea cochleata Müll.Arg

FAMILY

Cladoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Notocladonia cochleata (Müll.Arg.) S.Hammer

FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Fruticose

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP, RR, SO, Sp

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterised by the terricolous habit; the persistent, crowded primary squamules; podetia 2–10 mm tall, arising from margins of squamules and becoming fissured-clathrate, branch axils open; and terminal, clustered–peltate apothecia at tips of podetia.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Northland (North of Te Kao), Wellington (Silica Rapids, Tongariro National Park). **South Island:** Nelson (Red Hill). Probably more widely distributed in New Zealand, though still very poorly collected here. Also in Australia.

HABITAT

In the north, locally abundant below stunted *Leptospermum scoparium* and scattered *Hakea*, on leaf litter overlying open clay-cemented sand pavement at 80 m and associating with *Cladonia capitellata*, *C. vulcanica*, and abundant *Thysanothecium hookeri*. In Nelson on serpentine soil at c. 1500 m and associating there with *Cladonia murrayi*, *C. ochrochlora*, *C. pleurota* and *C. sulcata*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Primary thallus squamulose, squamules scattered to ± imbricate-crowded, terricolous. **Squamules** 0.2–2 mm wide and to 3.5 mm long, plane to subconvex, spathulate or cuneate, margins entire or minutely crenulate or occasionally ± bifurcate, ± ascending, not noticeably thickened. **Upper surface** pale yellow-green to olivaceous or brownish, smooth, matt, minutely maculate (×10 lens). **Lower surface** white, arachnoid. **Pseudopodetia** 2–8(–10) mm tall, concolorous with squamules or paler, ± minutely maculate, arising from margins of squamules, 0.1–0.5 mm diam. at base and there ± terete, expanding above to 1–2 mm diam., fissured-clathrate towards apices, exposing white medullary hyphae. **Apothecia** terminal, clustered–peltate, 0.05–0.3(–0.8) mm diam., disc round to irregular, plane to subconvex, brown–pink, sometimes ± white–pruinose, margins entire to crenulate, paler than disc, persistent.

Ascospores simple, 6–9 × 3–4 µm.

Chemistry: Cortex K–, KC+ yellow; medulla K–, C–, Pd–; containing usnic, divaricatic and nordivaricatic acids.

SIMILAR TAXA

Separated from *Notocladonia undulata* by the open podetia axils.



Growing trackside with *Cladia* and bryophytes, Great Barrier Island. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 11/04/2023, Licence: CC BY.



Growing trackside with *Cladia* and bryophytes, Great Barrier Island. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 11/04/2023, Licence: CC BY.

SUBSTRATE

Terricolous

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (23 April 2023). Information in the 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/notocladonia-cochleata/>