

# Zwackhia viridis

## SYNONYMS

*Graphis involuta*, *Graphis viridis*, *Opegrapha viridis*

## FAMILY

Lecanographaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Zwackhia viridis* (Ach.) Poetsch et Schied.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Lichen – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2021 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

*Zwackhia viridis* was first reported from New Zealand by Marshall & de Lange (2020) who identified it from specimens collected in September 2019 from the trunk of a nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*) growing in Nikau Bush Conservation Area, Rekohu (Chatham Island), Chatham Islands. Subsequent field work on that island (February 2021, June 2021) and Rangihau (Pitt Island) has so far disclosed *Zwackhia* only at the original site where it was found, where it is now known from four nikau palms growing close together.

*Zwackhia viridis* is common in eastern Australia, so it is very unlikely that it is not present on the larger islands of New Zealand. It should be looked for there (and in herbaria where it may have been mislabelled or unidentified). In the interim, a provisional listing of 'Data Deficient' is suggested for this species because it is so easily overlooked and even on the Chatham Islands it must be more widespread than the brief surveys for it suggest.

## DISTRIBUTION

**Chatham Islands:** In the New Zealand region known only from Rekohu (Chatham Island).

Abundant in Eastern Australia. Also recorded in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa, and Oceania (Ertz 2008).

## HABITAT

On the Chatham Islands, this species has so far only been recorded in shaded sites on the bark of nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*), where it cohabits with *Megalaria maculosa* (Stirt.) D.J.Galloway, *Pyrenula nitidula* (Bres.) R.C.Harris and *Usnea cf. oncodes* (Marshall et al. 2022).



*Zwackhia viridis* (wet thallus) on nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*), Nikau Bush Conservation Area, Rekohu (Chatham Island), Chatham Islands. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Date taken: 27/06/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.



*Zwackhia viridis* (thallus dry state) on nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*), Nikau Bush Conservation Area, Rekohu (Chatham Island). Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Date taken: 08/02/2021, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Crustose. **Thallus** greenish when wet, drying white, UV-, K-. **Lirellae** short not branched. Excipulum continuous. Subhymenium l-. Hymenial Gel without oil droplets, l+ red, K/l+ blue. **Ascus** 75 × 62 µm, asci with distinct K/l+ apical blue ring. **Ascospores** l-, fusiform, 8 per ascus, (12-)15(-17) locular, 42.8 × 6-8 µm, locules tabular.

## SUBSTRATE

Corticolous (bark of phorophyte: nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*))

## ETYMOLOGY

**viridis**: From the Latin viridis 'green'

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (21 July 2021). Description adapted from Ertz (2008) and observations on specimens collected from Rekohu (Chatham Island) by Peter J. de Lange.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Ertz D. 2008: Revision of the corticolous *Opegrapha* species from the Palaeotropics. *Bibliotheca Lichenologica* 102. 176 pp.

Marshall A.J.; de Lange P.J. 2020: First record of *Zwackhia viridis* (Lecanographaceae) from the Chatham Islands. *Trilepidea* 201: 6-8.

Marshall A.J., Blanchon D.J., Aptroot A., Lücking R., de Lange P.J. 2022: Five new additions to the lichenized mycobiota of the Aotearoa / New Zealand archipelago. *Ukrainian Botanical Journal* 79(3): 130-141.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/zwackhia-viridis/>