Menegazzia pulchra

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

CATEGORY
Lichen

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Lichens - Foliose

LICHEN SUBSTRATE
Corticolous (bark, wood)

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Thallus firmly attached, forming regular or irregular, complete or partial rosettes, to 15 cm diam., sometimes coalescing and then covering extensive areas of substrate, corticolous. Lobes numerous, radiating, 3-5(-6) mm wide, remaining distinct to centre of thallus, irregularly branched, laterals few, contiguous throughout entire length, becoming compressed and distorted centrally, rarely overlapping, margins sinuous-contorted, entire or occasionally notched, ± thinly blackened, especially centrally, hollow, lower side of internal cavity pale, apices ± suffused-brownish. **Upper surface** mostly convex, uniformly pale grey, here and there irregularly white-maculate, smooth or subrugose, shining, without isidia or soredia. Perforations frequent, median, mostly on main lobes, 1-1.5 mm diam., ± elevated, becoming low-conical or truncate, rounded or becoming distorted with age. **Apothecia** frequent, rather widely scattered, rarely 2-3-contiguous, elevated, ± pedicellate, ± turbinate, to 5 mm tall and to 4 mm diam., margins thick, persistent, entire, becoming ± striate-crenulate with age, inflexed, elevated, disc concave to ± plane, dark brown, usually ± bright orange-pruinose, pedicel and margins also ± densely coated in bright orange-red pruina. Epithecium ± red-brown, surface with numerous to few, irregular or ± rectangular orange-brown crystals. **Asci** 8-spored 130 × 60 µm. **Ascospores** ellipsoid, 35-43 × 20-23 µm, wall 3.5 µm thick.
Chemistry: Atranorin (cortex), norstictic acid [K+ red(crystals), Pd+ orange] and an unidentified orange pigment (K+ purple); apothecial margins K+ purple → black.

SUBSTRATE DETAILS
Corticolous

GENUS
Menegazzia

FAMILY
Parmeliaceae

AUTHORITY
Menegazzia pulchra P.James & D.J.Galloway

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

NVS CODE
MENPUC

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.

ATTRIBUTION

Some of this factsheet information is derived from Biota of New Zealand and is used under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence.

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/menegazzia-pulchra/

PDF DATE

27 May 2026