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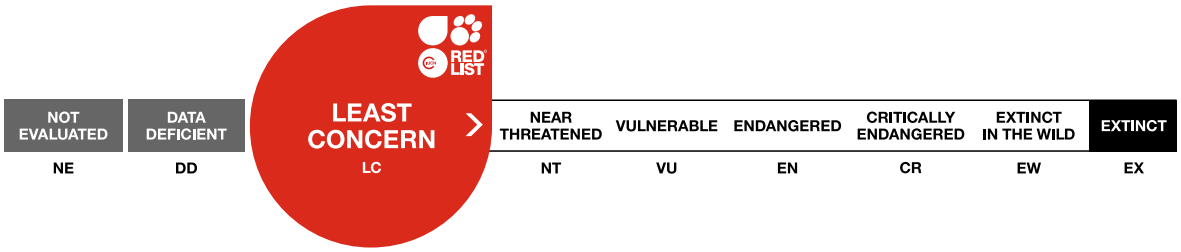
Parmelia saxatilis, Salted Shield Lichen

Assessment by: Yahr, R. *et al.*



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Fungi	Ascomycota	Lecanoromycetes	Lecanorales	Parmeliaceae

Scientific Name: *Parmelia saxatilis* (L.) Ach.

Synonym(s):

- *Geissodea saxatilis* (L.) J. St.-Hil.
- *Imbricaria saxatilis* (L.) Körb.
- *Lichen saxatilis* L.
- *Parmotrema saxatile* (L.) M. Choisy
- *Platysma saxatile* (L.) Frege

Common Name(s):

- English: Salted Shield Lichen

Taxonomic Source(s):

Index Fungorum Partnership. 2021. Index Fungorum. Available at: http://www.indexfungorum.org.

Taxonomic Notes:

This species has been the subject of much recent taxonomic work, including splitting off the segregate species *Parmelia ernstiae*, *P. serrana*, *P. mayi* and *P. rojoi* (Feuerer and Thell 2002, Molina *et al.* 2004, Molina *et al.* 2011, Crespo *et al.* 2020), and investigations into the diversity in the genus (Divakar *et al.* 2016). None of these segregate species can be diagnosed confidently using morphology only (Corsie *et al*. 2019). Nevertheless, we suspect *P. saxatilis s. str.* remains an abundant macrolichen on rocks and trees throughout the northern temperate and boreal zone.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2021

Date Assessed: May 18, 2021

Justification:

Parmelia saxatilis is common and abundant in many forests, heaths, and uplands outside the tropics and does not qualify for any threat categories. It is, therefore, listed as Least Concern.

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This species is widely distributed across the temperate and boreal zones of the northern Hemisphere, in addition to South Africa, Patagonia, the Antarctic Peninsula, Southern Ocean islands and New Zealand.

Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): Albania; Andorra; Antarctica; Argentina (Tierra del Fuego); Austria; Belarus; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Chile; Czechia; Denmark; Estonia; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Faroe Islands; Finland; France; French Southern Territories; Germany; Greece; Greenland; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Isle of Man; Italy (Italy (mainland)); Latvia; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Montenegro; Netherlands; New Zealand; Norway; Poland; Portugal (Azores, Madeira, Portugal (mainland)); Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia; Slovakia; South Africa; South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands; Spain (Canary Is., Spain (mainland)); Svalbard and Jan Mayen; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States

Distribution Map

Legend

EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:
IUCN 2021

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

Population

Parmelia saxatilis is one of the most common lichens in temperate and boreal habitats, and occurs in a wide range of settings (Molina *et al.* 2004). Even with the recently-recognized segregate species, recent molecular work has shown that *P. saxatilis* in the strict sense is found from pole to pole (Crespo *et al.* 2002, 2020). We infer the population size to be stable.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is abundant on trees and rocks (Brodo *et al*. 2001, Corsie *et al*. 2019) in a wide range of habitats across temperate and boreal biomes.

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

This species may be sensitive to high pollution loads (Geiser and Neitlich 2007).

Credits

Assessor(s):	Yahr, R., Allen, J., Lymbery, C., Batallas-Molina, R., Bungartz, F., Dal Forno, M., Howe, N., Lendemer, J., McMullin, T., Mertens, A., Paquette, H., Petix, M., Reese Næsborg, R., Roberts, F., Sharrett, S. & Villella, J.
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External Resources

For Supplementary Material, and for Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.1. Forest - Boreal	Resident	Suitable	Yes
1. Forest -> 1.2. Forest - Subarctic	Resident	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	Resident	Suitable	No
3. Shrubland -> 3.1. Shrubland - Subarctic	Resident	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.2. Shrubland - Subantarctic	Resident	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.3. Shrubland - Boreal	Resident	Suitable	Yes
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	Resident	Suitable	No

Plant Growth Forms
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Plant Growth Form
LC. Lichen
M. Fungus

Threats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
9. Pollution -> 9.3. Agricultural & forestry effluents -> 9.3.1. Nutrient loads	Ongoing	-	-	Low impact: 3

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km²): 128000
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km²): 200000000
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): No

Distribution
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 5-15

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