



## *Uredo chathamica*

### **Common Name(s):**

None

### **Distribution:**

This fungus has been found only in the Chatham Islands. However, one host, *Carex trifida*, is indigenous to the South Island and the subantarctic islands of New Zealand, and also occurs in Chile and the Falkland Islands. Five specimens of the rust were collected incidentally along with the plant specimens.

### **Features:**

Only one kind of spore is produced. These are formed in pustules (uredinia) that are found on both surfaces of the leaves, but are mainly on the lower (abaxial) surface. The pustules, which are surrounded by the ruptured leaf epidermis, are cinnamon-brown and powdery (pulverulent). They are up to 1 mm long or become longer when individual pustules merge into one another. The urediniospores are  $(28-33-39(-46) \times (24-26-31(-35) \mu\text{m}$ , and are globose or broadly ellipsoidal with 3-4 equatorial germ pores. The spore wall is echinulate,  $(1.5-2-3.5(-4) \mu\text{m}$  thick, and golden-brown. There are no four species of rust fungi recorded on *Carex* in New Zealand, all belonging to the genus *Puccinia*. Urediniospores of *Uredo chathamica* differ from those of the four *Puccinia* spp. in size and number of germ pores.

### **Fruiting:**

Found on *Carex* collected between December and March.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=6620](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=6620)