

Lecidoma G. Schneider & Hertel
(LECANORALES)

After Schneider, 1979, and Purvis, 1992

Rev. 5/94

Thallus pulvinate, of thickly crowded but non-imbricate areoles or squamules with appressed margins, forming a flat crust, the squamules angular, 1-2(-4) mm wide, rather dark gray-brown above and below, often on black hypothallus; upper cortex plectenchymatous; lower cortex undifferentiated, but lowest medullary hyphae deep brown, attached directly to substratum; medulla I-, the hyphae 3-4 μ m thick, thin-walled; algae chlorococcoid, dividing into 2-4 daughter cells, in clumps.

Apothecia \pm immersed, lecideine, dark red-brown, plane to convex, becoming immarginate; true exciple of parallel hyphae; outer part pale brown, inner part colorless; hypothecium hyaline; hymenium colorless, I+ blue; paraphyses straight, thin-walled, strongly conglutinate, only slightly branched (towards tips) and anastomosed; apices globose, with thin dark brown or red-brown apical cap; asci thin-walled, clavate, with well developed, K/I+ pale blue apical dome and K/I+ dark blue tubular structure, Porpidia-like. Spores simple, ellipsoid or ovoid, thin-walled, smooth, without perispore.

Conidiomata unknown. No substances. On acid turfy or gravelly soil, rarely on bare rock, on exposed mountain sides and summits, alpine.

L. demissum (Rutstr.) G. Schneider & Hertel

Thallus coarsely areolate to subsquamulose, composed of thickly crowded but non-imbricate squamules with appressed margins, forming a flat crust, or pulvinate, forming small to spreading lumpy mounds, to 7 cm diam.; squamules angular, 1-2(-4) mm wide, flat to convex, polygonal or roundish, \pm turgid, often contiguous and coalescing; upper surface rather dark brown or (in shade) gray or gray-brown above, \pm shiny; lower surface deep brown-black, on black hypothallus; algae in clumps.

Apothecia 0.5-1(-1.5) mm diam., discrete or becoming confluent, lecideine, \pm immersed or adnate; true exciple thin, becoming excluded; disc round, dull brown-black, red-brown when moist, plane to convex, becoming immarginate; exciple of parallel hyphae; hypothecium hyaline; hymenium 60-70 μ m tall; paraphyses 2-3 μ m wide, mostly simple, or slightly branched at apices; tips red-brown, to 4 μ m, globose; asci 50-55 x 10-12 μ m; spores ellipsoid, 12-16 x 5.5-7 μ m. Tholus of asci with tubelike structure.

Pycnospores unknown. Thallus P-, K-, C-, KC-. On acid turfy or peaty soils and acid gravels, rarely on bare rock, alpine, on exposed mountain sides and summits. When well developed the thalli resemble tiny cow patties in color and surface appearance.

Literature

Galloway, D. 1985. Flora of New Zealand Lichens.

Purvis, O. W. 1992. Lecidoma. In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.

Schneider, G. 1979. Die Flechtengattung Psora sensu Zahlbruckner: versuch einer Gliederung. Bibl. lich. 13: 1-291.