

**Pycnothelia** Dufour  
(LECANORALES: CLADONIAACEAE)

After Hale (1979), and others; Need info. from Thomson

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Primary thallus persistent, crustose, of noncorticate, rounded granules. Secondary thallus (pseudopodetia)  $\pm$  vertical, fruticose,  $\pm$  shortcylindrical, hollow, simple to richly branched, not forming cups, corticate, without squamules or soredia. Cortex not differentiated. Photobiont chlorococcoid. Medulla with outer layer containing algal cells forming a persistent pseudocortex; inner layer cartilaginous, variable in thickness, not clearly defined.

Apothecia rare, arising on the tips of the pseudopodetia,  $\pm$  peltate, often forming apical clusters. Hamathecium of paraphyses. Asci Cladoniatype. Spores simple or 13septate, elongatefusiform.

Pycnidia frequent; apex redbrown or brown; conidia threadlike, curved. Various depsidones and/or atranorin or fatty acids such as protolichesterinic acid. On humic, sandy or clay soils, some species on rocks.

**P. papillaria** (Ehrh.) Dufour

Primary thallus scattered, crustose, granular, often widespreading, white, graywhite or creamcolored; granules rounded,  $\pm$  contiguous, 0.20.5(1) mm diam. Pseudopodetia greenish or light mineral gray, to 0.5(1.5) cm tall, scattered or  $\pm$  obscuring the primary thallus,  $\pm$  cylindrical or coneshaped, apices  $\pm$  rounded, simple to sparsely branchedcoralloid, irregularly inflated, hollow, and very fragile, often constricted at the base; surface smooth or with scattered, rounded granules; not forming cups. Pycnidial ostioles frequent, on the tips or sides of the pseudopodetia or on the primary thallus, dark brown, apical; pycnosporos 814 x 0.5  $\mu$ m, curved. Apothecia rare, dark brown, usually several together. Spores 915 x 23.5  $\mu$ m, 0 to 1septate. Thallus K<sup>+</sup> yellow (atranorin,  $\pm$  chloratranorin). Medulla K, C, P (fatty acidsprotolichesterinic and lichesterinic), UV $\pm$  bluewhite ( $\pm$  squamatic acid). Firmly attached to acid peat or leached sandy soil, widespread along roads and other open areas, northeastern U.S., to Greenland. Variety apoda (Nyl.) ined., reported from Europe, has a whitish thallus, K<sup>+</sup> red crystals (norstictic acid), scarcely developed pseudopodetia, frequent rustred apothecia, and spores 710 x

3.54.5 um.

### **Literature**

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