

Cornicularia (Schreber) Hoffm.
(LECANORALES)

Thallus composed of ± numerous strongly attached individuals, which arise from a rudimentary foliosesquamulose thallus, in shrubby, erect, tufts; bilaterally symmetrical, the lobes ± flattened, the smaller ones terete; branching regularly dichotomous; surface ± blackish to blackish brown, without pseudocyphellae, cilia, rhizines, or vegetative propagules. Epicortex nonpored, ± knobby, ca. 10 µm thick. Cortex thick, of massive, periclinal hyphae; outer layer composed of 12 layers of densely packed isodiametric cells (paraplectenchymatous), ca. 1520 µm thick, barely separable from the inner layer, which is composed of highly gelatinized periclinal hyphae, ca. 75230 µm thick. Medulla with ± dense hyphae, with ± scattered bundles or periclinal hyphae; single hyphae ca. 35 µm diam., smooth. Cell walls containing Cetrariatype lichenan (I+ blue). Photobiont Trebouxia.

Apothecia ± terminal or subterminal, eperforate, zeorine, with thalline margin entire, ± toothed or spinose, at first prominent, later retreating with development of the disk, often with algae and medullary portion. Asci Lecanoratype. Spores 8, colorless, simple, ellipsoid, with ± blunt ends, 68 x 3.54 µm.

Pycnidia black, globose, halfimmersed (± immersed, then ± raised when mature), mostly at apices of branches (marginal according to Elix); conidia dumbbellshaped (bifusiform), 6.57.5 x 0.50.8 µm. No substances. On hard, siliceous rocks, arcticalpine, in oceanic influenced regions. Monotypic.

Characterized by an erect fruticose thallus arising from a rudimentary foliosesquamulose base, regularly dichotomous ± terete lobes, dense medulla, and absence of cilia, pseudocyphellae, and medullary chemistry.

After Thomson (1984)

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This genus formerly included quite diverse taxa, but is now restricted to one. Cornicularia normoerica is easily recognized by its short, erect, coarselobed blackish thallus attached to rocks, and its terminal apothecia.

1. Thallus black to chestnut brown, attached to rocks; apothecia usually common, terminal, to 3 mm broad, the margins verrucose or

with a thornyspinulose corona; disc dark brown to black, somewhat shiny, plane to convex. Thallus 12 cm tall, fruticose, erect, forming tufts, matt or shining, dichotomously branched sparingly; branches usually to 3 mm broad, somewhat flattened, lacking isidia, soredia or pseudocyphellae. No substances. On cliffs and boulders (in very windy areas when occurring in the alpine), arcticalpine, Alaska to Oregon, and Iceland, rather uncommon (at least in the Pacific NW). C. normoerical. Thallus brown, growing loosely on soil or over rocks, or attached bark or wood; often with pseudocyphellae; apothecia mostly rare. (see Bryopogon and Cetraria)

Literature

Thomson, J. W. 1984. American Arctic Lichens I. The Macrolichens. Columbia University Press, New York.

In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.
Elix, J. A. 1993. Genera of Parmeliaceae.