

**Pyrgillus** Nyl.

(CALICIALES: INCERTAE SEDIS)

After Various Authors

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Thallus crustose, uniform, ecorticate, undifferentiated. Ascocarps immersed to adnate, urn-like, conico-cylindrical, broad at the base and tapering slightly upward, 0.4-0.6 mm diam.; mazedoid, i.e., with amassing mature ascospores outside the asci on top of the ascocarps; wall carbonized; disk narrow and flat, brown to black; proper exciple thick, surrounded by a thin thalloid one; hypothecium thick, pale (dark brown in P. javanicus according to Fink); paraphyses thread-like; asci cylindrical, thin walled, unitunicate, disintegrating into a mazaedium, 8-spored; spores oblong to elliptical, dark brown, amassing in a cup-like structure on top of the closed ascocarps, transversely (1-)3-septate only, 11-15(-18) x 6-8.5  $\mu$ m; walls unequally thickened to produce lenticular locules. Pycnidia immersed; fulcrum exobasidial; pycnospores filiform, curved. Photobiont Trentepohlia. Thallus UV+ yellow (lichexanthone). On bark. In humid forests.

**P. javanicus** (description from Tibell, 1996, including P. americanus)

Thallus superficial to immersed, shining to matte, slightly yellowish to greenish gray, smooth to minutely verrucose, and slightly rimose. Photobiont Trentepohlia. Cortex 20-30  $\mu$ m thick, densely interspersed with minute crystals.

Ascomata sessile, 0.8-1.1 mm high, the lower part almost spherical with its uppermost part protruding above the surface of the substrate and covered by an irregularly verrucose thallus tissue. Excipulum black, 20-45  $\mu$ m thick, more or less well-separated from the carbonized thallus tissue surrounding the ascomata. Upper compartment of the ascoma short cylindrical, 0.4-0.65 mm wide, protruding 0.4-0.53 mm above surface of thallus. Excipulum of upper compartment strongly carbonized, 70-90  $\mu$ m thick. Margin of excipulum often with thin, grayish pruinose rim. Hamathecium I-. Asci cylindrical, formed singly, dissolving at a very early stage, with uniseriate spores, 69-78 x 6-7.5  $\mu$ m. Spores 3-septate, septa strongly thickened, shaped like bi-concave lenses with small, lenticular lumina, dark brown, broadly ellipsoid, wall thick, smooth, 11-13 x 6-8.5  $\mu$ m

Thallus K+ dull reddish yellow, C-, KC-, P-, UV+ yellow, containing lichexanthone.

On trees, S. Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana.

**Literature**

Harris, R. C. 1990. Some Florida Lichens.

Fink, B. 1935. Lichen Flora of the United States.

Rogers, 19\_. Genera of Australian Lichens.

Tibell, L. 1996. Flora Neotropica Monograph 69: Caliciales. New York Botanical Garden.