

**Agyrium Fr.**

AGYRIACEAE

After Purvis & James, 1992

Rev. 5/94

Thallus immersed in substratum, but surface often paler. Photobiont absent. Apothecia without thalline exciple; true exciple poorly developed. Epithecium redbrown, nongranular, K+ dissolving. Hymenium I+ blue. Hypothecium colorless to pale straw. Paraphyses branched and entangled, especially towards the apices, slender, slightly swollen at apices. Asci 8spored, Trapeliatype. Spores colorless, nonseptate. No substances. On bark or wood.

A lecideoid genus, nonlichenized.

**A. rufum (Pers.) Fr.**

Thallus immersed, forming spreading pale stains, evidently non lichenized, but clusters of chlorococcoid algae ± obligately surrounded by hyphae of the fungus are occasionally present. Apothecia scattered, to 1 mm diam., discrete, rounded to broadly ellipsoid, sessile, ± gelatinous when wet; disc convex, immarginate, faintly rugose, reddish or orangishbrown; hymenium 8590 um. Asci 7080 x 1012 um, clavate, the apex broadly rounded, rather thickwalled, 8spores; spores 1015 x 68 um, ellipsoid, simple, biseriate, colorless, often with a large central oil drop. On smooth, rotting wood of mainly conifers, rarely on bark and Calluna stems.

**Literature**

Gowan & Brodo, 1988.

Purvis & James, 1992. Agyrium. In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.