

Speerschneidera Trevisan

After Hafellner & Egan (1981)

Rev. 5/94

Thallus dorsiventral, dichotomously branched, prostrate, with adhesive strands. Cortices prosoplectenchymatous; upper cortex very thick and agglutinated; lower cortex thin and knobbed, weblike on outside. Apothecia disks flat then convex, reddish brown; margin thalline. Paraphyses with pigmented tips. Asci Lecanoratype. Spores 2celled, hyaline, with thin septa. Single accessory pigment in apothecia, unrelated to parietin, K. On calcareous rocks.

S. euploca (Tuck.) Trevisan

Thalli fruticose, prostrate, developing in regular, circular layers, 712 cm diam; lobes 0.20.5 mm thick, branching dichotomously at brief intervals (trichotomies seldom occur); old lobes are overgrown by younger ones, such that finally, in most cases, 24 lobes lie loosely over one another; upper surface smooth, gray to brownish gray (graygreen when moist), often slightly reddish in older portions, convex; lower side whitish gray and usually distinctly paler and less convex than the upper, with a finely meshed fibrillar structure, attached to the substrate, usually limestone, at irregular intervals by adhesive strands. Apothecia originating in axils of the branches, less often on tips or edges, 0.52.0 mm diam.; disc reddish brown, then flat; thalline margin level with disc, becoming excluded; spores 8/ascus, 1septate, 911.215 x 33.75 um, hyaline. All usual spot tests negative, containing only an unknown substance. Growing on shaded, steep, northfacing exposures of limestone. Kansas and Arkansas south to western Texas and Mexico, rather rare.

Literature

Hafellner, J. and R. S. Egan. 1981. Studies on the genus Speerschneidera. Lichenologist 13(1): 1126.