

Diploicia Massal.

(LECANORALES: PYXINACEAE)

After Purvis

Rev. 5/94

Thallus crustose, subsquamulose or placodioid (crustosesubfoliose, marginally plicateradiate, the lobes contiguous and confluent), rosetteforming to spreading, rather thick, tartareous; white or grayish white; distinct prothallus absent; upper cortex pseudoparenchymatous, packed with minute crystals, K, not dissolving; attached by medullary hyphae; soredia often present.

Apothecia (rarely if ever present in N. American material, as far as I've seen) at first immersed with thallus, emergent (sessile according to Rogers); disk round, black or brownblack, with or without a graywhite pruina; margin proper, black, thin, often occluded; hypothecium brownblack; epihymenium granular, brownblack; paraphyses septate, filiform, unbranched, with swollen (capitate) and darkened apices; asci unitunicate, Lecanoratype, clavate, I+ blue; tholus I+ blue; spores 8, polarilocular, transversely 13septate, brown, ellipsoid.

Pycnidia immersed or in thalline warts; wall colorless but brown around the ostiole; conidiogenous cells enteroblastic, intercalary, branched; pycnosporos bacilliform, simple, colorless, arising acrogenously and pleurogenously (fulcra endobasidial according to Rogers). Atranorin and chloratranorin, diploicin, and a xanthone. Photobiont Trebouxia. On bark, wood, soil, or rocks, coastal, southwestern.

Characterized by the distinctly subsquamulose to placodioid thallus with conspicuous plicateradiate margins, and the lecideine apothecia, brown, 1septate spores. Especially when sterile it is outwardly extremely similar to Dirinaria spp. and to Physcia clementei (both of which have a lower cortex).

D. canescens (Dickson) Massal.

Thallus rosetteforming to spreading, 13(5) cm diam., often small but coalescing, ± crustose to squamulose at the center; distinctly radiateplicate at margins; lobes radiating, closely contiguous, apparently pleated, convex, entire, ± thickened; surface glaucousgraywhite, sometimes becoming darker centrally and often dark at extreme tips, more verruculose and ± cracked and areolate towards the center; lobes 0.51 mm wide (to 4 mm wide

according to Galloway), wider at margins, matt, densely whitepruinose, sorediate. Soralia scattered, coalescing to form erose patches, mainly laminal; soredia white or concolorous, granular, ± farinose.

Apothecia rare, 0.3-0.9 mm diam.; proper exciple dark brown, opaque, with marginal zone of crystals; spores (9)11-13(15) x (4.5)5.5-6(7.5) µm. Pycnidia rare; pycnospores 6.7 x 1 µm. Thallus P, K± yellow, KC, UV+ dull orange or UV, containing atranorin, chloratranorin, diploicin and a xanthone. On calcareous (or siliceous?) rocks, walls and trees in mainly dry, often ± sheltered, nutrient-enriched habitats, also on bird perch rocks in the xeric supralittoral. Southwestern.

Literature

Galloway, D. 1985. Flora of New Zealand Lichens.

Purvis, O. W. 1992. Diploicia. In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.

Rogers, 19 . Genera of Australian Lichens.