

Heterocarpon Müll. Arg.

After Fink (1935) and Harada (1991)

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Host thallus (probably a member of the Lecanorales) bullate (according to [Fink?]: areolate, scaly, the areoles or scales often lobed, \pm densely arranged; upper cortex plectenchymatous; lower cortex thin or wanting; algal and medullary layers \pm distinct; photobiont protococcoid).

Ascomata perithecioid, minute to small, immersed, indicated by the small ostiole surrounded by the dark brown exciple; exciple brown below; hymenium hyaline or brownish above; paraphyses becoming indistinct; asci clavate, apparently bitunicate; spores 6-8, brown or blackish, ellipsoid (or boat-shaped or fusiform according to ?), 1-septate (to 3-septate according to ?), dark brown.

Conidia bacillariform.

On rock.

H. ochroleucum (Tuck.) Müll. Arg.

Host thallus thick, smooth, yellowish green, bullate (areolate; areoles small and densely arranged, usually convex, the central ones substipitate, those of the margin often lobed).

Ascomata ovoid in vertical section, ca. 200 μ m high, ca. 160 μ m wide (150-350 μ m diam. according to Fink), almost completely immersed, 1-several per areole of the host, with the exposed portion black; exciple very dark brown in the upper part, brown in the remainder, with a hyaline layer inside, prosoplectenchymatous, but almost paraplectenchymatous in the inner parts, the brown layer 10-25 μ m thick, the hyaline layer 15-25 μ m thick in the sides and bottom. Hamathecium of paraphyses, not prominent, short, directed towards the ostiole, lacking paraphyses. Hymenium 65-75 μ m tall, 75-90 μ m wide; hymenial gelatin I+ light blue. Subhymenium 25-35 μ m thick, elevated in the center, lens-shaped. Asci 40-45 x 10-15 μ m, I-, 8-spored; wall thickened near the apex. Ascospores 17-23(-25) x (3.5-)5 μ m, smooth, lacking a distinct perispore.

Pycnidia immersed in the host thallus, pluriloculate, composed of isodiametric cells. Conidia ca. 3 x 1 μ m.

On rocks, California.

Literature

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

Harada, H. 1991. *Heterocarpon* Müll. Arg., an overlooked lichenicolous genus. *Systema Ascomycetum* 10: 1-6.