

Steinia Krber

After Purvis

Rev. 5/94

Thallus crustose, often widespreading, membranelike or slightly uneven-scurfy, effuse; prothallus absent. Photobiont chlorococcoid, cells ellipsoid. Apothecia scattered, adpressed to sessile; disk dark brown-black, strongly convex. Thalline exciple absent. True exciple rudimentary, of \pm undifferentiated vertically arranged hyphae. Hymenium I+ blue. Hypothecium pale to dark brown, of \pm vertically aligned hyphae. Paraphyses sparse, simple or sparingly branched, in a \pm uniform gelatinous matrix, not swollen at the tips. Asci clavate-cylindrical, thin-walled, without a tholus, with a K/I+ blue, distinct apical pore. Spores 16, globose or slightly ellipsoid, simple, colorless, thick-walled and distinct. Pycnidia black; conidiogenous cells elongate-ampulliform, enteroblastic, acrogenous; conidia simple, ellipsoid, colorless. No substances. Mainly on disturbed soils.

S. geophana (Nyl.) B. Stein

Thallus thin, inconspicuous, rarely cracked, membranelike or uneven-scurfy, pale gray to dull olive-green, \pm subgelatinous when wet. Apothecia 0.2-0.6 mm diam., widely scattered, rarely contiguous; disk convex, black; exciple soon disappearing; hypothecium yellowish brown; epithecium red-brown to brown; pigment in irregular granules, K and not dissolving; hymenium 65-75 μ m tall, colorless or patchily pale red-brown. Paraphyses ca. 0.7 μ m thick, often not extending to epithecium. Asci ventricose. Ascospores 12-18, spherical, 5-7.5 μ m diam.; wall 0.5 μ m thick. Conidia 11.5 x 0.5 μ m. Thallus P, K, C, KC0, UV (no substances). On \pm moist, metal-rich, often recently disturbed soils, stable dunes, decaying wood, old leather and bones, flints on chalk, roofing tiles in lowland and upland sites. Ephemeral. Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois.

Literature

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

Magnusson, A. H. 19 . Biatorella and Sarcogyne in North America (need to check this to see if it has additional info.)

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