

**Orphniospora** Krber

After Purvis & Coppins, 1992, and Thomson, 1979

Rev. 5/94

Thallus areolate, gray to blackish; medulla white to dark brown; hypothallus blackish. Photobiont chlorococcoid. Apothecia appearing lecanorine, or lecideoid but immersed in the thallus; disk black, epruinose; thalline exciple absent. True exciple and hypothecium dark brownish. Hymenium colorless or pale. Epihymenium greenish or purplish, the pigment diffuse; hypothecium pale to dark brown; hymenium I+ blue; spore walls strongly thickened. Paraphyses swollen, simple or sparingly branched and anastomosing; tips without pigmented caps; asci clavate, 8spored; apical dome narrow, not or weakly I+ blue but ascus apex surmounted with a strongly I+ blue, rather diffuse cap. Spores colorless or dark olive brown, ellipsoid, thickwalled, simple or with an indistinct septum. Pycnidia immersed; conidiogenous cells integrated in chains, cylindrical, acrogenous or pleurogenous; pycnosporos bacilliform, simple, colorless. No substances. On siliceous rock, montane.

Species with brown spores may be confused with Buellia or Rhizocarpon, but the spores are at most indistinctly septate.

Possibly related to Fuscidea, which differs in the pale hypothecium and never containing any greenish or purplish pigments.

**O. moriopsis** (Massal.) D. Hawksw.

Thallus brownish black, ± shining, on a black hypothallus; areoles 0.31 mm diam., continuous or dispersed, irregular, angular or rounded, flat to convex, sometimes glebulose; outer cells of cortex greenish, N+ red; medulla brownish, I+ blueviolet, K, P. Photobiont cells (chlorococcoid) 712(15) um diam. Apothecia 0.41 mm diam., at first immeresed (later becoming ± sessile); true exciple thin, black, at first shallow but later excluded and ± inapparent; disc black when dry, greenish when wet, matt; exciple green at edges, brown inside; epithecium olivegreen, K+ green intensifying, N+ red, sometimes with additional brownish, K+ purplish pigment; hymenium 80110 um tall, colorless or pale brownish, K+ purplish; hypothecium dark brown to redbrown or shaded violet, K+ purplish tinge, with an extension down through the thallus to the hypothallus.

Paraphyses 1.52 um wide; apices slightly widening to 34 um. Asci clavate. Spores 8/ascus, 1218 x 6.510 um, uniformly thinwalled, dark olive brown, simple or indistinctly 1septate. Pycnospores 34 x 1 um. On hard, acid rocks. Arcticalpine, south to Washington and New Hampshire.

#### **Literature**

Purvis, W. and B. Coppins. Orphniospora. In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.

Thomson, J. W. 1979. Lichens of the Alaskan Arctic Slope