Icmadophila Trevisan

After James & Brightman, 1992

Rev. 12/94

Thallus crustose, superficial, delimited, not corticate, greenish to grayish; prothallus white or absent. Photobiont Coccomyxa. Apothecia rounded or sublobulate, pale, sessile or slightly elevated, appearing very shortly stalked. Thalline exciple [usually?] soon excluded; true exciple well developed, persistent or partially excluded, extended below, of intricately interwoven hyphae. Hymenium I+ blue. Paraphyses simple, slender, the apical cells often swollen. Asci cylindrical, K/I except for a thin, dark blue cap in the apical wall; apical dome with a concave depression at the base, without an ocular chamber; not fissitunicate. Spores (6)8, ellipsoidfusiform, 13septate, colorless, without a perispore. Pycnidia immersed; wall colorless; conidiogenous cells enteroblastic, in chains, shortcylindrical; conidia arising laterally and temrinally, bacilliform, simple, colorless. Thanmnolic, perlatolic. On humus, moorlands, rotting wood, in cool, humid areas.

Thallus rather soft, of compacted, irregular granules forming a continuous very uneven crust, pale green, glaucous green or whitish gray. Photobiont cells 610 x 3.55 um. Apothecia 13.5 mm diam., pink or pale orangepink; true exciple thin or excluded, paler or concolorous with disc, even, smooth or irregularly crenulate or nodulose; disc smooth or ± corrugatewrinkled, epruinose or faintly pruinose. Epithecium redbrown, densely packed with minute crystals, K+ dissolving, orange; hymenium 120140 um; hypothecium hyaline, the central part of interwoven hyphae with scattered clusters or coarse crystals, K, not dissolving; paraphyses ca. 1 um wide, the apices to 5 um. Spores 1327 x 46 um. Pycnospores 3.54 x 0.51 um. Thallus P+ orange, K+ yellow or orange, KC+ orange, UV+ glaucous (apothecia UV), containing thamnolic and perlatolic acids. On damp ground, peat, and rotted wood, in moist coniferous forests or sometimes exposed sites in humid regions. New England to the Pacific coast. ..... I. ericetorum

This is the only member of the genus reported from N. America, but some material seems to fit I. elveloides, a Eurasian taxon which may or may not be a good species. Poelt, 1969 distinguishes the two as follows:

1. Thallus usually whitish gray; photobiont cells 58(10) x 34(5) um. Margin of the apothecia thin and soon disappearing. Thallus and apothecia K+ yellow then redbrown; apothecia to 4 mm high; spores to 4celled. (Note: var. stipitata B. de Lesd. is distinguished by: Thallus and apothecia K+ yellow then bright red; apothecial stalk to 6 mm high, granular; spores 2celled). ..... I. ericetorum (L.) Zahlbr.
1. Thallus usuallay greengray; photobiont cells 45 x 23.5 um. Maring of apothecia at first thick, later disappearing. ..... I. elveloides (Web.) Hedl.

Literature

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

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

James, P. W. and F. H. Brightman. 1992. Icmadophila. In: Purvis, et al, Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.

Poelt, J. 1969. Bestimmungschlssel europischen Flechten. Cramer, Vaduz.