Involucropyrenium

After Breuss (1996), and others

Rev. November 3, 1997

Thallus squamulose Upper cortex small-celled, thin, indistinctly delimited. Photobiont cells small (-10 um). Perithecia sessile between squamules; involucrellum well developed. Asci clavate. Spores biseriate, simple, hyaline. Pycnidia absent.

Involucropyrenium. waltheri (Krempelh.) Breuss (Syn. Dermatocarpon waltheri, Catapyenium waltheri)

Thallus minutely squamulose; squamules 0.5-1.5 mm wide and rarely more than 0.2 mm thick, roundish, firmly adpressed and confluent to form a continuous, cartilaginous, crust-like cover over the substratum; upper surface fawn to dark brown, matt, not pruinose; rhizoidal hyphae brown, forming a dense, dark hypothallus. Perithecia between the squamules, often aggregated into groups or lines, black, spherical, semi-emergent; true exciple brown-black; involucrellum entire, fusing with the exciple. Asci clavate. Spores 17-21 x 8-10 um, ± ovoid to clavate, biseriate. On soil, moribund bryophytes, and humus, confined to high altitudes. Reported from Colorado and New Mexico. The material cited by Anderson needs to be re-examined for perithecial characters.

Literature

Breuss, O. 1996. Eine verfeinertes Gliederungskonzept für Catapyrenium (lichenisierte Ascomyceten, Verrucariaceae) mit einem Schlüssel für die bisher bekannten Arten. Ann. Naturhist. Mus. Wien 98B Supplem.: 35-50.