

Absconditella Vezda
(GRAPHIDALES: ASTROTHYRIACEAE)

After Poelt & Vezda, & Coppins

Rev. 5/94

Thallus crustose, effuse, greenish or gray-green, usually intermixed with algal films, \pm gelatinous when moist. Photobiont chlorococcoid. Apothecia disc urceolate-concave, pale colored, immersed to emergent. True exciple entire, of \pm pseudoparenchymatous or conglutinated parallel hyphae. Hymenium I- or I+ yellowish, K/I-. Hypothecium shallow, often indistinct. Hamathecium of simple, or rarely a few apically-branched, indistinctly septate, slender paraphyses, 0.5-1 μ m wide, the apices slightly to distinctly swollen. Asci cylindrical to cylindrical-clavate, thin-walled, with a distinct apical dome that sometimes has a narrow ocular chamber, K/I- or rarely bluish, the apical dome K/I-, 8-spored. Spores ellipsoid, fusiform or fusiform-acicular, 1-3(-5)-septate, hyaline, thin-walled, smooth; perispore absent. Conidiomata unknown. All parts P-, K-, KC-, C-, UV-. Mostly on acidic, moist substrata which are usually covered by a \pm gelatinous algal film.

All species are inconspicuous with minute apothecia and rarely collected. Distinguished from Dimerella and Gyalecta by the absence of Trentepohlia as photobiont.

- 1. Spores with 3 septae, narrow fusiform, (17-)19-24(-29) x 4.7-5.5(-6) μ m. Apothecia light brownish when moist. On sandy humus soils. A. trivialis**
1. Spores with 1 septum, 9.5-12(-14.3) x 2.5-4(-5) μ m. Apothecia pale rose when moist. On dead Sphagnum and mixed with other mosses. A. sphagnum

A. sphagnum Vezda & Poelt

Apothecia 0.2-0.4 mm diam., entirely whitish or with a yellowish, flesh-colored or pinkish disk (pale rose when moist); true exciple ca. 20 μ m wide below, increasing to ca. 50 μ m wide above; hymenium 65-85 μ m tall. Ascospores 9.5-12(-14.3) x 2.5-4(-5) μ m, 1-septate. On dead Sphagnum and mixed with other mosses. Ohio.

A. trivialis (Willey ex Tuck.) Vezda

Apothecia 0.18-0.4 mm diam., whitish to pale yellowish (pale brownish when moist), immersed; true exciple 18-24 μ m tall below, increasing to 45-50 μ m wide above; hymenium 90-100 μ m tall. Ascospores (17-)19-24(-29) x 4.7-5.5(-6) μ m, narrowly fusiform, 3-septate. On mosses on heavy metal-contaminated river gravels, wet rock faces, clay soils, and sandy humus soils. Northeastern U.S.

ADD:

Arizona. A. lignicola

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lignicola Vezda & Pisut
sphagnorum Vezda & Poelt
trivialis (Willey ex Tuck.) Vezda

Literature

Coppins, 1992. Absconditella. In: Purvis, et al., Lichen Flora of Great Britain and Ireland.
Poelt, J. & A. Vezda. 1977. Bestimmungsschlüssel europäischer Flechten. Erg. I.