

**Thelopsis** Nyl.  
(PYRENULACEAE)

After Harris (1979The Bryologist), and others

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Thallus crustose, ± superficial, thin, gray or orangered, effuse, uniform, ecorticate; prothallus absent. Photobiont Trentepohlia. Perithecia partly immersed or sessile, ± tough; exciple pale reddish brown to black, not black and friable; ostiole straight, punctiform. Hymenium colorless, I+ blue becoming redbrown. Paraphyses threadlike, unbranched, free, persistent. Periphyses slender. Asci cylindrical to oblong; walls uniformly thin, without an apical apparatus. Spores many, ellipsoid or shortly fusiform, (1)3septate, colorless. Pycnidiaa very rare, pale; conidia threadlike, straight or slightly curved. No substances.

Recognized by the tough, semigelatinous perithecia, persistent, simple paraphyses, and asci with very numerous, septate ascospores.

**1. Spores simple;** ascocarps whitish to pale brownish or yellowish, immersed to partly immersed in the thallus, 0.20.3 mm thick. Asci 140170 x 1012 um. On bark, especially of Fagus, rarely on dwarf bushes in the alpine zone. Virginia. ....T. flaveola

**1. Spores with 15 transverse septa or submuriform.** .....2

**2. Spores 1septate,** 1215 x 58 um, oblongellipsoid; ascocarps pale, immersed 1several per wart, 0.10.25 mm across, 0.40.5 mm thick; warts 0.61 mm wide, grayish white, raised above thallus, the ostiole scarcely visible, indicated by a minute light brown area; exciple pale. Asci 200250 x 1012 um. Thallus whitish to light gray or pale loamcolored to rosy, reddish yellow or buffcolored, composed of small, irregular warts, scattered or crowded together into an uneven, chinky crust. On trees, rarely rock (f. saxicola (Crozals)). ....T. isiaca

**2. Spores 35septate or submuriform;** ascocarps more or less free from thallus. ....3

**3. Spores submuriform with 3 transverse septa and 12 longitudinal septa,** 914(16) x 57(8) um; ascocarps pale rose to buff, 0.40.6 mm diam; exciple pale reddsih, rarely black; hymenium I+ blue, then winered. On bark. Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee. ....T. inordinata

**3. Spores with (1)35 transverse septa (without longitudinal septa). ....4**

**4. Growing on bark; ascocarps reddish;** spores (1)3(5)septate, (10)1218(21) x (4)56(8) um, ellipsoidoblong, ends rounded, without a distinct perispore. Thallus inconspicuous, waxy, gray to grayish green or pale brownish, often widespreading and diffuse. Perithecia scattered, discrete, subgelatinous when moist, at first ± immersed, then erumpent and sessile, often retaining part of the thallus in a peripheral basal ring recalling a false thalline exciple, pale pinkbrown, redbrown to dark brown, often paler around the ostiole, relatively shortlived, soon replaced by new fruits when shed; usually most abundant in winter and early spring; exciple < 50 um wide. Periphyses simple, 45celled, to 35 um long, 1.5 um wide. Asci (100)150200 x (16)1825 um, 100150spored. Louisiana, Texas. ....T. rubella

**4. Growing on mosses or plant remains; ascocarps black and** roughened, tuberculate or ± wrinkled/striate, halfimmersed, 0.50.8 mm diam; exciple brownblack above and below; asci 200250 x 1525 um; spores 3septate, 1120 x 47 um, somewhat constricted at the septa when young (v. lometnispora Vezda), not constricted when old, with a thickened perispore. Thallus normally rather bright orangered to redbrown when fresh, becoming graygreen in herbarium. Otherwise ± similar to T. rubella. On dead bryophytes and plant detritus, often ± in sheltered crevices in basic schistose rocks. Michigan. ....T. melathelia

## **Literature**

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