

PLATYTHECIUM

Alan W. Archer

[From *Flora of Australia* volume 57 (2009)]

Platythecium Staiger, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 85: 370 (2002); from the Greek *platys* (flat), and *theke* (a container or case), in reference to the flattened lirellae.

Type: *P. grammitis* (Fée) Staiger

Thallus pale brownish green to pale olive-green or greyish white, thick, frequently rimose, smooth, dull. Ascomata lirelliform, immersed, open. Disc pale brown to brown, reddish brown or black, epruinose. Proper exciple inconspicuous, yellowish brown or pale brown, non-carbonised. Hymenium 60–100 µm thick, not interspersed, I– or laterally I+ pale blue. Asci 8-spored. Ascospores oval to narrowly ellipsoidal, hyaline, 4-locular or submuriform to muriform, < 20 µm long, I+ blue.

Chemistry: Protocetraric acid present, or lichen compounds absent in the Australian species; salazinic acid, norstictic acid and testacein known from other species.

Platythecium is a genus of 17 tropical and subtropical, corticolous species, two of which are known from Australia.

A.W.Archer, New combinations and synonymies in the Australian Graphidaceae, *Telopea* 11: 59–78 (2005).

Thallus pale brownish green to pale olive-green, thick; protocetraric acid present..... **1. P. pertenellum**
Thallus greyish white, thin; lichen compounds absent **2. P. streimannii**