

THYSANOTHECIUM

N.Sammy

[From *Flora of Australia* volume 54 (1992)]

Thysanothecium Mont. & Berkeley, *Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc.* 5: 257–258 (1846); from the Greek *thysanos* (a fringe or tassel) and *thecium* (hymenium), in reference to the subterminal, ventrally placed, often pectinate apothecium.

Type: *T. hookeri* Mont. & Berkeley

Primary squamules areolate, scattered or closely imbricate; cortex \pm continuous to fissured, a strengthening cylinder of cartilaginous, nerve-like strands below upper cortex. Pseudopodetia erect, terete near base, becoming flattened, expanded and leaf-like above. Phycobiont *Trebouxia*. Ascomata apothecial, terminal or subterminal on pseudopodetia, solitary to \pm clustered; disc flat to convex, often developed on ventral surface of supporting pseudopodetium; epithecium granular, 7–10 μm thick, brown; hymenium 24–40 μm tall, hyaline; hypothecium 100–120 μm thick, pale yellowish; paraphyses \pm densely confluent, filiform, simple, septate, 1.3–1.5 μm wide. Asci clavate, 15–20 \times 6 μm . Ascospores 8 per ascus, simple, ellipsoidal, straight or curved, 7–10 \times 2–3 μm , hyaline. Conidiomata pycnidial, marginal on primary squamules, cylindrical or bottle-shaped, with a gaping ostiole, black. Conidia not seen.

A genus of 2 species occurring predominantly in the cool southern regions of Australia, including Tas., and extending into Qld; also in N.Z., N.Caled., Indonesia and Japan.

H. des Abbayes, Les lichens du genre *Thysanothecium* (Cladoniacées) et leur constitution chimique, *J. Jap. Bot.* 43: 302–304 (1968); D.J.Galloway, The lichen genus *Thysanothecium*, an historical note, *Nova Hedwigia* 28: 499–513 (1977); P.Groenhart, Malaysian lichens IV, *Reinwardtia* 2: 385–402 (1954); D.J.Galloway & J.K.Bartlett, The lichen genus *Thysanothecium* in New Zealand, *Nova Hedwigia* 36: 381–398 (1982).

Pseudopodetia with \pm continuous cortex not exposing corticate granules; growing on soil, termite/ant mounds and rocks; containing usnic and barbatic acids as major extrametabolites

Pseudopodetia with grooved striate cortex, exposing corticate granules; growing on bark; containing usnic and divaricatic acids as major extrametabolites