

Verrucaria fuscella (Turner) Winch

Botanist's Guide Northumberland Durham 2: 45 (1807)

Lichen fuscillus Turner, *Trans. Linn. Soc. London* 7: 90 (1804). T: Great Britain; n.v.

[*Verrucaria glaucina* auct. non. Ach.: P.M.McCarthy, *Fl. Australia* 58A: 183 (2001)]

Thallus epilithic, deeply areolate, pale to medium grey-brown or dark olive-brown, matt, \pm smooth, 0.1–0.5 (–1) mm thick, corticate; areolae angular, plane to slightly convex, 0.1–0.4 mm wide; side walls and margins of areolae often blackish. Algae globose, 7–15 μ m diam. Prothallus brown-black; basal layer thick, brown-black. Perithecia \pm completely immersed, usually solitary, \pm central in areolae, 0.1–0.25 mm diam.; apex plane to slightly concave, rarely slightly convex; ostiole inconspicuous or in a shallow depression. Involucrellum black, apical or extending to exciple base level and merging with the blackish basal layer, 20–40 μ m thick. Exciple c. 15 μ m thick, hyaline to greenish black. Centrum 0.08–0.2 mm wide. Periphyses 20–30 \times 1.5–2.5 μ m. Asci 40–65 \times 12–17 μ m. Ascospores narrowly to broadly ellipsoidal, 10–20 \times 5–9 μ m.

Known from limestone in south-eastern Vic. Also in western and northern Eurasia and North America, and on Christmas Island in the eastern Indian Ocean.

Vic.: The Bluff, 0.5 km NNW of Buchan, East Gippsland, *P.M.McCarthy* 267 (MEL).

