

Verrucaria phaeoderma P.M.McCarthy

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T: Holland Ck, below Ford Bridge, 1 km E of confluence with Spring Creek, 5 km E of Swanpool, Langi, N of Mt Samaria State Park, North-East Region, Vic., 36°44'15"S, 146°03'10"E, 11 Oct. 1990, *P.M.McCarthy* 458; holo: MEL.

Illustration: *P.M.McCarthy*, *op. cit.* 117, fig. 5.

Thallus epilithic, sparingly to richly rimose, rarely areolate, matt, smooth, medium grey-green to greenish black or grey-black, (40–) 60–80 (–120) μm thick, corticate. Algae subglobose to globose, 7–20 \times 7–16 μm . Prothallus black; basal layer absent. Perithecia 1/3–2/3 immersed, 0.16–0.27 mm diam., black; apex rounded or slightly flattened or fissured; ostiole in a shallow depression. Involucrellum \pm contiguous with the exciple, 40–50 μm thick. Exciple 12–15 μm thick, with a greenish black outer layer and a hyaline inner layer. Centrum 0.1–0.18 mm wide. Periphyses 15–30 \times 1.5–2.5 μm . Asci 53–70 \times 18–26 μm . Ascospores subcylindrical to ellipsoidal, 14–24 \times 5–10.5 μm .

Known from eastern N.S.W., eastern Vic. and Tas.; grows on aquatic and semi-aquatic basalt, dolerite and sandstone. Also in New Zealand.

N.S.W.: Allan Brooke Rd, Wallagaraugh R., 5 km S of Rockton–Eden road, *P.M.McCarthy* 466 (MEL); 500 m upstream from Gloucester Falls, Gloucester R., Barrington Tops Natl Park, 10 Feb. 1991, *P.M.McCarthy* (MEL). Vic. 2 km NNW of Cobbler L., North-East Region, *P.M.McCarthy* 423 (MEL). Tas.: L. Osborne, Hartz Mountains Natl Park, *P.M.McCarthy* 624 & *G.Kantvilas* (MEL); Mersey R., 3 km S of Liena, Great Western Tiers, *P.M.McCarthy* 641 & *G.Kantvilas* (MEL).

