

Verrucaria striatula Wahlenb.

in E.Acharius, *Methodus* 21 (1803)

T: Bossekop, Sweden, 1802, *G.Wahlenberg*; holo: *n.v.*

Illustration: P.M.McCarthy, *Muelleria* 7: 331, fig. 8H-I (1991).

Thallus epilithic, continuous to rimose, medium green to greenish black, subgelatinous when wetted, with glossy black dots and 50–100 (–150) μm wide, elongate, simple to branched carbonaceous ridges. Algae subglobose to globose, 4–7 μm diam. Prothallus and basal layer not apparent. Perithecia usually superficial, hemispherical to subconical, 0.2–0.3 (–0.35) mm diam., black; apex becoming plane to markedly excavate or distorted; ostiole comparatively large. Involucrellum dimidiate or extending to exciple base level, frequently incurved beneath the exciple, 40–70 (–90) μm thick. Exciple c. 15 μm thick, hyaline to pale brown at the base, brown-black towards the apex. Centrum 0.12–0.18 mm wide. Periphyses 25–35 \times 1–2 μm . Asci 30–45 \times 10–15 μm . Ascospores ellipsoidal, ovoid to subglobose 7–11 \times 4–7 μm .

Occurs in the mid-littoral on seashores of southern Vic. and Tas.; grows on siliceous and calcareous rocks. Also on cool-temperate to boreal coasts of the Northern Hemisphere and in New Zealand.

Vic.: Warrnambool, 16 Aug. 1949, *I.Bennett & E.C.Pope* (AD); Spray Point, Cape Schanck Coastal Park, Mornington Penin., *P.M.McCarthy* 353 (MEL). Tas.: Half Moon Bay, Tasman Penin., 6 Dec. 1971, *J.E.S.Townrow* (HO); NW corner of Curtis Is., Bass Strait, *R.B.Filson* 12233 (MEL).

Black dots and ridges are most evident on exposed thalli; more shaded individuals are often smooth and green.

