

Verrucaria tuberculiformis P.M.McCarthy & Kantvilas

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T: Maxwell R., near confluence with Prince Rivulet, Tas., 26 Apr. 1985, *G.Kantvilas* 192/85; holo: HO; iso: BM.

Thallus endolithic to subepilithic, diffuse to determinate, continuous to areolate, matt, smooth to uneven, pale grey to medium grey-brown, ecorticate; areolae 0.2–0.6 mm diam., angular to ±rounded, plane to slightly convex. Algae globose, 5–11 µm diam. Prothallus not apparent; basal layer absent. Perithecia semi-immersed to superficial, hemispherical, subglobose to tubercle-like, (0.2–) 0.25 (–0.31) mm diam., dull black; apex usually plane, occasionally slightly convex; ostiole inconspicuous or in a 60–100 µm diam. depression. Involucrellum contiguous with and extending to the base of the exciple or completely enclosing it, smooth, 60–100 µm thick near the apex, brown-black to black in thin section, not overgrown by the thallus at maturity. Exciple 10–15 µm thick, brown-black. Centrum subglobose to obpyriform, 0.12–0.16 mm wide. Periphyses simple or sparingly branched, 20–28 × 1.5–2 µm. Asci clavate to cylindroclavate, 47–59 × 14–19 µm. Ascospores narrowly to broadly ellipsoidal or somewhat cylindrical, (9.5–) 13 (–16) × (5–) 6 (–7.5) µm.

This lichen is endemic to south-western Tas.; known only from the type locality on a limestone outcrop in a remote sedgeland heath at an altitude of 200 m.

Verrucaria tuberculiformis is similar in appearance to *V. dufourii*, both having a greyish, rather nondescript thallus and prominent perithecia. However, the perithecia of *V. tuberculiformis* are smaller but more emergent, while the ascospores are both shorter and narrower.

