Verrucaria tasmanica P.M.McCarthy


T: tributary of Liffey R., c. 1 km NNW of Liffey Falls, c. 21 km SSE of Deloraine, Central Plateau, Tas., 20 May 1993, *P.M.McCarthy* 637 & *G.Kantvilas*; holo: MEL.

Illustration: *P.M.McCarthy*, *op. cit.* 120, fig. 6.

Thallus epilithic, continuous, slightly glossy, smooth, pale greyish green to grass green, 40–70 µm thick, ecorticate. Algae vertically-elongate to subglobose, 5–9 × 4–6 µm. Prothallus not apparent; basal layer absent. Perithecia almost completely immersed, 0.1–2 mm diam., brown-black; apex plane to slightly convex; ostiole inconspicuous or in a 20–50 µm wide pale grey-brown depression. Involucrellum contiguous with the exciple, medium brown in thin section, 25–35 µm thick near the apex, 30–50 µm thick at the base. Exciple 15–20 µm thick, hyaline at the base and sides, darkening slightly towards the apex. Centrum 0.09–0.14 mm wide. Periphyses 15–22 × 1.5–2 µm. Asci 40–55 × 15–20 µm. Ascospores broadly ellipsoidal to subglobose, 9.5–15 × 6–10.5 µm.

Known from two localities in northern Tas.; grows on aquatic limestone and dolerite.


This lichen is characterised by the smooth and somewhat glossy green thallus, minute immersed perithecia with an often pale ostiole, and small asci and ascospores.