

BATHELIUM

André Aptroot

[From *Flora of Australia* volume 57 (2009)]

Bathelium Ach., *Methodus* 111 (1803); from the Greek *bathos* (deep) and *thele* (a nipple), in reference to the shape of the ascomata.

Type: *B. mastoideum* Ach.

Thallus corticate, green to grey. Ascomata occasionally simple, globose, usually in groups, black, with pseudostromatic tissues containing crystals, not overgrown by the thallus but covered by a layer of compressed cells. Hamathecium colourless, not interspersed with oil droplets. Ascospores 1–8 per ascus, IKI–, with angular lumina, colourless, fusiform with rounded ends, 3-septate to densely and irregularly muriform, not constricted at the median septum, surrounded by a gelatinous sheath. Conidiomata unknown.

Chemistry: Anthraquinones usually present.

A genus of c. ten species, mostly tropical epiphytes; one species confirmed from Australia.