

HETEROPLACIDIUM

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Heteroplacidium Breuss, *Ann. Naturhist. Mus. Wien* 98B, Suppl.: 40 (1996); from the Greek *heteros* (different), in reference to this genus being different from *Placidium*.

Type: *H. imbricatum* (Nyl.) Breuss

Thallus squamose. Squamae scattered, contiguous to imbricate, loosely or closely attached, rounded, lobate or incised, corticate above, anchored by a mat of rhizohyphae, holdfast-like aggregates of rhizohyphae or by rhizines. Upper cortex paraplectenchymatous, more than 25 µm thick, sharply delimited from the algal layer, comprising roundish angular to angular cells; tissue below algal layer subparaplectenchymatous. Perithecia immersed, subglobose, to 0.5 mm diam., without an involucrellum. Asci clavate, 8-spored. Ascospores biseriata, narrowly to broadly ellipsoidal, subfusiform or subglobose, simple, colourless. Pycnidia laminal and immersed, of *Xanthoria*-type (*sensu* G.Vobis, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 14: 1–141, 1980). Conidia oblong-ellipsoidal, bacilliform or subcylindrical.

A segregate from *Placidium* (Breuss, 1996), with nine species world-wide and one in Australia, *Heteroplacidium* is characterised by its clavate asci, biseriata ascospores and a less differentiated thallus anatomy. Species grow on soil and rock in warm-temperate regions.

O.Breuss, Die Flechtengattung *Catapyrenium* (Verrucariaceae) in Europa, *Stappia* 23: 1–174 (1990); O.Breuss, Ein verfeinertes Gliederungskonzept für *Catapyrenium* (lichenisierte Ascomyceten, Verrucariaceae), *Ann. Naturhist. Mus. Wien* 98B, Suppl.: 35–50 (1996).