

## POLYMERIDIUM

*André Aptroot*

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*Polymeridium* (Müll.Arg.) R.C.Harris, in S.C.Tucker & R.C.Harris, *Bryologist* 83: 12 (1980); from the Greek *polys* (many) and *meridies* (in the middle), in reference to numerous ascospore septa.

*Arthopyrenia* sect. *Polymeridium* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 46: 317 (1883). T: *Arthopyrenia contendens* (Nyl.) Müll.Arg. [= *P. contendens* (Nyl.) R.C.Harris]

Thallus white to yellowish or grey, not corticate. Ascomata simple, black, without pseudostromatic tissues, globose to pyriform, erumpent from the substratum. Ostiole apical to lateral. Hamathecium colourless, occasionally interspersed with oil droplets. Ascospores 8 per ascus, usually IKI–, rarely IKI+ violet, irregularly biseriata, colourless, fusiform with subacute ends, symmetrically 3–13-septate, rarely muriform, not constricted at the septa, when immature surrounded by a thin gelatinous sheath; septa not thickened; lumina cylindrical, never becoming rounded or diamond-shaped. Conidiomata rather rare.

Chemistry: Thallus rarely with lichexanthone.

A genus of c. 20 species worldwide, mostly tropical epiphytes. Eight species, including one endemic taxon, are known from tropical, subtropical and temperate Australia.

R.C.Harris, A revision of *Polymeridium* (Müll.Arg.) R.C.Harris (Trypetheliaceae), *Bol. Mus. Paraense Emílio Goeldi*, Ser. Bot., 7: 619–644 ('1991') [1993].

1	Ascospores muriform.....	<b>5. P. proponens</b>
1:	Ascospores transversely septate.....	2
2	Ascospores 4–13-septate (1: ).....	3
2:	Ascospores 3-septate.....	5
3	Ascospores 9–13-septate; ostiole lateral (2).....	<b>4. P. pleurothecium</b>
3:	Ascospores 4–11-septate; ostiole apical.....	4
4	Ascospores mostly 4–7-septate; hamathecium interspersed (3: ).....	<b>6. P. quinquesepatum</b>
4:	Ascospores mostly 7–11-septate; hamathecium not interspersed.....	<b>2. P. albocinereum</b>
5	Ascospores ellipsoidal, 21–25 × 8–10 µm (2: ).....	<b>8. P. sulphurescens</b>
5:	Ascospores cylindrical to fusiform; more than 2.5 times longer than wide.....	6
6	Ascospores to 20 µm long (5: ).....	<b>7. P. subcinereum</b>
6:	Ascospores > 20 µm long.....	7
7	Ascospores 20–23 × 6–8 µm; ostiole apical (6: ).....	<b>1. P. albidum</b>
7:	Ascospores 24–32 × 6–10 µm; ostiole apical or lateral.....	<b>3. P. catapastum</b>