

Porina howeana P. M. McCarthy

Lichenologist 29: 229 (1997)

Typus: Australia, New South Wales, Lord Howe I., Max Nicholls Track, E of Dawsons Point Ridge, 31°31'09"S, 159°03'05"E, alt. c. 80 m, on shaded basalt, 6 February 1995, P. M. McCarthy 1150 (Holotypus: CANB).

Thallus epilithic, determinate, mid- to dark olivaceous brown, occasionally paler, smooth to minutely rugulose, usually glossy, 20–30(–50) µm thick, sparingly to richly, but finely, rimose, not areolate, gelatinous and translucent when wetted, ecorticate, containing few or no rock fragments and crystals, K–. *Algae Trentepohlia*; cells 6–12 × 6–10 µm. Hyphae c. 2 µm wide. *Prothallus* not apparent. *Basal layer* absent.

Perithecia semi-immersed to superficial, very numerous. *Perithecial apex* rounded. *Ostiole* inconspicuous. *Involucrellum* dark olive-brown to blackish in surface view, dark orange-brown to dark olive-brown in thin section, K–, hemispherical, (0.19–)0.25(–0.33) mm diam., 20–35(–45) µm thick, extending to excipulum-base level, covered by a thin layer of thallus and interspersed. *Centrum* globose to depressed-ovate, 0.1–0.17 mm diam. *Excipulum* uniformly pale yellow-brown, 15–20 µm thick. *Paraphyses* unbranched, 0.8–1 µm wide. *Periphyses* absent. *Asci* elongate-cylindrical, with rounded or subtruncate apex and a distinct apical chitinous ring (in Congo Red), 70–86 × 11–14 µm. *Ascospores* colourless, 7-septate, fusiform to elongate-fusiform, less commonly elongate-cylindrical, straight, slightly curved or faintly sigmoid, with rounded to subacute ends and a (2–)4(–6) µm thick gelatinous sheath, irregularly biserial in the asci, (19–)25(–31) × (4–)5(–6.5) µm (128 measured); contents clear.

Conidiomata moderately numerous, semi-immersed to almost superficial, dark brown to blackish above, pale brown below, 80–120 µm diam., with a convoluted conidiogenous layer. *Conidia* narrowly ellipsoid to bacilliform, 3–4 × 1–2 µm.