

CHROODISCUS

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Chroodiscus (Müll.Arg.) Müll.Arg., *Lich. Epiphylli Novi* 18 (1890); from the Greek *chroa* (colour) and *diskos* (a flat circular plate, a disc), in reference to the red apothecial discs of the type species.

Ocellularia sect. *Chroodiscus* Müll.Arg., *Flora* 66: 352 (1883); *Phyllophtharmaria* sect. *Chroodiscus* (Müll.Arg.) Zahlbr., in H.G.A.Engler & K.A.E.Prantl, *Nat. Pflanzenfam.*, 1, 1: 120 (1905).

Type: *C. coccineus* (Leight.) Müll.Arg.

Phyllobrassia Vain., *Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn.*, ser. A, 15(6): 173 (1921). T: *P. mirifica* (Kremp.) Vain. [= *C. mirificus* (Kremp.) R.Sant.]

Thallus foliicolous, pale greenish to pale greyish green. True cortex absent; protocortex discontinuous. Photobiont trentepohlioid. Prothallus absent. Ascomata chroodiscoid, ±rounded, rarely slightly elongate or irregular in fused ascomata. Proper exciple non-amyloid. Hymenium non-amyloid, not interspersed, conglutinated; paraphyses thin, straight, parallel to slightly interwoven, unbranched; tips not thickened to slightly thickened; lateral paraphyses absent; columella absent. Epihymenium hyaline or pale orange to rust-red, granulose. Asci 8-spored, non-amyloid. Ascospores 1–2-seriate, transversely septate, hyaline, non-amyloid, non-halonate; ascospore wall thin, smooth. Condiomata not seen.

Chemistry: Containing the stictic acid chemosyndrome and unknown anthraquinones.

According to Frisch *et al.* (2006), *Chroodiscus* is readily characterised by its foliicolous habitat, chroodiscoid ascomata without lateral paraphyses and small, hyaline, non-amyloid ascospores. The species currently referred to this genus were included in *Thelotrema* by Hale (1981), but most recent authors have accepted *Chroodiscus*. However, its circumscription has varied, and while some authors included corticolous and muscicolous taxa with lateral paraphyses in *Chroodiscus* (Kalb, 1991; Vězda, 1992; Kantvilas & Vězda, 2000; Staiger, 2002), these are now placed in other genera, such as *Acanthotrema*, *Chapsa* and *Topeliopsis* (Frisch *et al.*, 2006).

A tropical and subtropical genus of c. 15 foliicolous species; two are known from north-eastern Queensland.

R.Santesson, Foliiicolous lichens I. A revision of the taxonomy of the obligately foliicolous, lichenized fungi, *Symb. Bot. Upsal.* 12(1): 1–590 (1952); M.E.Hale, A revision of the lichen family Thelotremataceae in Sri Lanka, *Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), Bot.* 8: 227–332 (1981); H.T.Lumbsch & A.Vězda, Beiträge zur Kenntnis der foliikolen Flechten australischer Regenwälder I, *Nova Hedwigia* 50: 245–254 (1990); R.Lücking & M.Grube, Facultative parasitism and reproductive strategies in *Chroodiscus* (Ascomycota, Ostropales), *Stapfia* 80: 267–292 (2002) A.Frisch, K.Kalb & M.Grube (eds), Contributions towards a new systematics of the lichen family Thelotremataceae, *Biblioth. Lichenol.* 92: 1–556 (2006); R.Lücking, Foliiicolous lichenized fungi, *Fl. Neotropica Monogr.* 103: 1–867 (2008).

Ascomatal disc reddish; ascospores 7–10 µm long, with 2 (–3) locules **1. C. australiensis**
Ascomatal disc brownish; ascospores 10–15 µm long, with 3–6 locules **2. C. parvisporus**