

MYELOCHROA

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[From *Flora of Australia* volume 55 (1994)]

Myelochroa (Asahina) Elix & Hale, *Mycotaxon* 29: 240 (1987); from the Greek *myelos* (medulla) and *chrous* (coloured), referring to the coloured medulla.

Parmelia sect. *Hypotrachyna* subsect. *Myelochroa* Asahina, *Lichens Japan II: Genus Parmelia* 74 (1952).

Type: *M. aurulenta* (Tuck.) Elix & Hale

Thallus foliose, loosely adnate to adnate. Lobes flat, sublinear to subirregular, 1–4 mm wide; margins ciliate; apices subrotund; cilia sparse to dense, confined to axils of lobes or evenly dispersed, simple, slender. Upper surface grey, occasionally with yellow tinge or rarely pale greenish white (atranorin, chloroatranorin and secalonic acids), emaculate or with simple maculae, without pseudocyphellae, with or without soredia and isidia. Upper cortex fragile, palisade plectenchymatous, with a pored epicortex. Cell walls containing isolichenan. Medulla at least in part orange-red, yellow-orange or pale yellow owing to presence of secalonic acid A and/or related compounds. Lower surface black; rhizines moderately dense to dense, simple or sparsely furcate or squarrosely branched. Ascomata apothecial, laminal, sessile to subpedicellate; disc imperforate. Ascospores ellipsoidal, 8 per ascus, 8–14 × 5–8 µm. Conidiomata pycnidial, immersed, laminal. Conidia bacilliform or weakly bifusiform, 4–7 × 1 µm.

Myelochroa is a segregate of *Parmelina* Hale, easily distinguished by the pigmented medulla and triterpenes in the medulla. It contains 19 species, with East Asia and North America being the main centres of distribution. Three species are recorded for Australia, on bark and, less commonly, on rock.

M.E.Hale, *Bulbothrix*, *Parmelina*, *Relicina* and *Xanthoparmelia*, four new genera in the Parmeliaceae (Lichenes), *Phytologia* 28: 479–490 (1974); M.E.Hale, A monograph of the lichen genus *Parmelina* Hale (Parmeliaceae), *Smithsonian Contr. Bot.* 33: 1–60 (1976); J.A.Elix & M.E.Hale, *Canomaculina*, *Myelochroa*, *Parmelinella*, *Parmelinopsis* and *Parmotremopsis*, five new genera in the Parmeliaceae (lichenized Ascomycotina), *Mycotaxon* 29: 233–244 (1987).

- 1 Thallus isidiate **2. M. degelii**
1: Thallus sorediate or pustulate, not isidiate 2
2 Lower medulla salmon-orange (*I:*) **3. M. denegans**
2: Medulla white, pigmented orange to sulphureous yellow only beneath soralia and near exposed cracks in upper cortex **1. M. aurulenta**