

## POCSIA

*Pocsia* Vezda, *Folia Geobot. Phytotax.* 10: 401 (1975); named in honour of Hungarian bryologist Tamás Pócs (1933–).

Type: *P. marattiae* Vezda

Thallus crustose, foliicolous, rarely corticolous (not in Australia), epicuticular. Perithecia superficial, usually  $\pm$ concolorous with the thallus; involucrellum usually absent or indistinct (apparently present in an Australian specimen of *P. septemseptata*; see below). Paraphyses absent or sparse and simple in immature perithecia, absent at maturity. Periphyses simple to sparingly branched. Asci 8-spored; apex with or without a broad and rather flat ocular chamber. Ascospores fusiform, oblong or cylindrical, 3–15-septate, colourless. Pycnidia not seen in mainland Australian specimens.

A pantropical genus with seven obligately foliicolous species. Three species occur in tropical and subtropical rainforest in eastern Australia; a fourth, *P. mucronata* P.M.McCarthy, occurs on Lord Howe Is. and Christmas Is.

Doubt concerning the systematic position of *Pocsia* centres on anomalies in its photobiont, perithecial morphology and pycnidia. Thus, the algae of *P. borhidii* and *P. triseptata* appear chlorococcoid (the type found in most Verrucariaceae); however those of the Australian specimen of *P. septemseptata* are certainly filamentous and very similar to *Trentepohlia*. Moreover, although pycnidia are unknown in six of the seven species of *Pocsia*, in *P. mucronata* these are curved-acicular and  $40\text{--}52 \times 2 \mu\text{m}$  (P.M.McCarthy, *Lichenologist* 31: 141–144, 1999), i.e. very different to the oblong or short-bacilliform type known from genera such as *Endocarpon*, *Placidium* or *Verrucaria*.

A.Vezda, Foliikole Flechten aus Tanzania (Ost-Afrika), *Folia Geobot. Phytotax.* 10: 383–432 (1975); A.Vezda, Foliikole Flechten aus Zaïre (II). Zwei neue Arten der Gattung *Pocsia*, *Folia Geobot. Phytotax.* 17: 387–392 (1982); A.Vezda & K.Kalb, Beiträge zur Kenntnis der foliikolen Flechten australischer Regenwälder III, *Nova Hedwigia* 53: 215–228 (1991); R.Lücking & K.Kalb, Foliikole Flechten aus Brasilien (vornehmlich Amazonien), inklusiv einer Checkliste zu *Coenogonium* und *Dimerella* (Gyalectaceae), *Bot. Jahrb. Syst.* 122: 1–61 (2000).

1	Thallus usually isidiate .....	<b>P. borhidii</b>
1:	Thallus lacking isidia .....	2
2	Ascospores 3-septate .....	<b>P. triseptata</b>
2:	Ascospores with 7 or more septa .....	3
3	Ascospores 7-septate .....	<b>P. septemseptata</b>
3	Ascospores (7–)11–13(–15)-septate .....	<b>P. mucronata</b>