ERIODERMA

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Erioderma Fée, Essai Crypt. Ecorc. 146 (1825); from Greek erio (woolly), and derma (skin), in reference to the hairy upper surface which is a characteristic feature of the genus.

Type: E. polycarpum Fée = E. groendalianum Ach.

Thallus foliose, lobate, orbicular, ±loosely attached; P±orange. Upper surface distinctly cobwebby, often with ±erect, shaggy tufts, greyish blue when wet. Medulla white. Lower surface whitish with ±squamose bundles of blackish rhizohyphae (in Australia). Cyanobiont Scytonema. Ascomata apothecial, mostly marginal few, large; disc flat often becoming convex, brownish, with distinct, persistent paler proper exciple; thalline exciple absent; cyanobiont penetrating apothecium along subhymenium; hymenium I+ blue. Asci with apical amyloid structures, usually sheets. Ascospores ellipsoidal, ±smooth. Conidiomata pycnidial, moderately common, marginal, immersed (in Australia).

A genus of c. 25 species, mainly tropical, particularly in South America but extending as far south as Patagonia and north to Scandinavia and Newfoundland. Two species occur on bark and twigs in moist, humid habitats in Australia.


Thallus not sorediate; usually with ±marginal apothecia 1. E. leylandii
Thallus sorediate with limbiform soralia; apothecia unknown 2. E. sorediatum