

## FISSURINA

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*Fissurina* Fée, *Méth. Lich.* 35 (1824); from the Latin *fissura* (a crack) and the suffix *-ina* (having the nature of), in reference to the slit-like lirellae of many species.

Type: *F. dumastii* Fée

Thallus pale yellow-brown to olive-green, usually smooth and glossy. Ascomata fissurine, usually simple, sometimes branched, immersed, sometimes opening and the lips thickening to form conspicuous lirellae. Proper exciple non-carbonised, yellow to dark orange-brown, sometimes becoming darkened laterally or apically, or absent. Hymenium not interspersed, I–. Ascospores usually 8 per ascus (all Australian species), oval or broadly ellipsoidal, narrowly ellipsoidal or rounded-oblong, hyaline, 4-locular, sometimes with a halo, or submuriform to muriform, I– or I+ pale to medium blue.

Chemistry: Lichen compounds absent, or psoromic acid, 2-methoxypsoromic acid or stictic acid present.

A widespread genus of 50–60 species; usually corticolous, rarely saxicolous. Ten species are known from Australia.

1	Thallus saxicolous .....	2
1:	Thallus corticolous .....	3
2	Ascospores 12–16 µm long; lichen compounds absent (1).....	8. <b>F. praetermissa</b>
2:	Ascospores 16–20 µm long; psoromic acid present .....	10. <b>F. streimannii</b>
3	Ascospores 4–10 × 2–4-locular (1:) .....	4
3:	Ascospores transversely 4-locular.....	6
4	Lichen compounds absent; ascospores 21–28 µm long, 4–5 × 2–4-locular (3).....	4. <b>F. elaiocarpa</b>
4:	Lichen compounds present .....	5
5	Ascospores 4–6 × 2-locular; thallus containing 2-methoxypsoromic acid (4:).....	9. <b>F. psoromica</b>
5:	Ascospores 8–10 × 2–3-locular; thallus containing stictic acid .....	1. <b>F. abdita</b>
6	2-Methoxypsoromic acid present; ascospores 16–26 µm long (3:).....	5. <b>F. elixii</b>
6:	Lichen compounds absent .....	7
7	Lirellae conspicuous, raised; ascospores 13–21 µm long (6:).....	6. <b>F. insidiosa</b>
7:	Lirellae inconspicuous, visible only as a slit .....	8
8	Proper exciple darkened laterally; ascospores 10–11 µm long (7:).....	2. <b>F. albonitens</b>
8:	Proper exciple not darkened laterally; ascospores 11–22 µm long .....	9
9	Lirellae with a thin black margin (8:) .....	7. <b>F. nigririmis</b> var. <b>deficiens</b>
9:	Lirellae lacking a black margin .....	3. <b>F. dumastii</b>