

MELANOPHLOEA

P.M.McCarthy & G.Kantvilas

[From *Flora of Australia* volume 57 (2009)]

Melanophloea P.James & Vězda, *Lichenologist* 5: 89 (1971); from the Greek *melanos* (black) and *phloios* (bark), in reference to the blackish, outer ascomatal wall of the type species.

Type: *M. pacifica* P.James & Vězda

Thallus granulose and diffuse to continuous, or smooth and rimose, lichenised, ecorticate. Ascomata semi-immersed to superficial, convex to hemispherical or subglobose, not immersed in thalline warts. Ascomatal wall uniformly blackish, or with an outer greenish black to brownish black layer of non-periclinal hyphae. Paraphyses branched and anastomosing. Periphyses absent. Ascospores simple, oblong, ellipsoidal, subglobose or globose.

A genus of two species, one corticolous in north-eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands, the second a saxicolous lichen endemic to north-eastern Australia.

P.W.James & A.Vězda, *Melanophloea* P.James & Vězda, a new lichen genus, *Lichenologist* 5: 89–91 (1971); G.Thor, Additional lichen records from Australia. 23. Three lichens new to Australia and a new locality for a *Collema* species, *Australas. Lichenol. Newsl.* 37: 19–23 (1995); P.M.McCarthy, A new species of *Melanophloea* (Thelocarpaceae) from north-eastern Queensland, *Australas. Lichenol.* 62: 26–28 (2008).

Thallus smooth and rimose, saxicolous; ascomatal wall resembling an involucrellum, not completely enclosing the exciple; ascospores ellipsoidal to oblong..... **1. M. montana**
Thallus granulose, corticolous; ascomatal wall completely enclosing the exciple; ascospores ±globose
..... **2. M. pacifica**