

AGONIMIA

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Agonimia Zahlbr., *Oesterr. Bot. Z.* 59: 350 (1909); from the Greek *a-* (without) and *gone* (a small seed), in reference to the absence of hymenial algae ("gonidia"), in contrast with *Endocarpon*.

Type: *A. tristicula* (Nyl.) Zahlbr.

Thallus minutely squamulose to granular. Squamules rounded to elongate, corticate; cortex pseudoparenchymatous; uppermost cells often with minute papilla-like projections. Perithecia globose to doliiform, often inconspicuous. Involucrellum absent. Exciple \pm distinctly 3-layered; outer layer dark brown to black; inner layers hyaline to pale brown. Asci 1, 2 or 8-spored, clavate, thin-walled; apex not or only slightly thickened. Ascospores muriform, ellipsoidal, colourless to brown.

A genus of eight or nine species, mainly in cool- to warm-temperate parts of Europe; also in North America, New Guinea, the western Pacific and New Zealand; one species is known in Australia.

The minutely squamulose to granulose thallus and the 3-layered exciple distinguish *Agonimia* from *Polyblastia* (*q.v.*).

T.D.V.Swincow, Pyrenocarpous lichens: 15. Key to *Polyblastia* Massal. in the British Isles, *Lichenologist* 5: 92–113 (1971); B.J.Coppins & A.P.Bennell, Thallus surface features in *Agonimia tristicula*, *Lichenologist* 11: 107–108. (1979); O.W.Purvis, *Lich. Fl. Great Britain & Ireland* 66–67 (1992); E.Sérusiaux, P.Diederich, A.M.Brand & P. van den Boom, New or interesting lichens and lichenicolous fungi from Belgium and Luxembourg. VIII, *Lejeunia*, n.s., 162: 1–95 (1999).