

A NEW SPECIES OF POLYPORES FROM INDIA

The senior author while working on the polypore flora of Eastern Himalayas collected some interesting specimens of the genus *Coltricia*. These collections do not fit into any existing species of the genus, so a new species i.e., *Coltricia pusilla* Sharma et Wright belonging to family Hymenochaetaceae is proposed.

***Coltricia pusilla* Sharma et Wright sp. nov.**

Basidiocarpus annus, centraliter stipitatis; pileus infundibuliformis, 5-8 mm in diametro, 1-1.5 mm crassus, aureo-brunneus ad cinnamomeus, nitidus, zonatus, ad marginem ciliatus, pori 2-4 per mm; tubiaureo-brunnei; contextus ferrugineus; stipes usque ad 2 cm longus, 1-1.5 mm in diametro, ferrugineus; hyphae monomiticae, septatae, ferrugineae, 4-7 μ m latae.; sporae oblongo-ellipsoideae, aureo-brunneae, 5-6.5 \times 3-4.2 μ m; in terra.

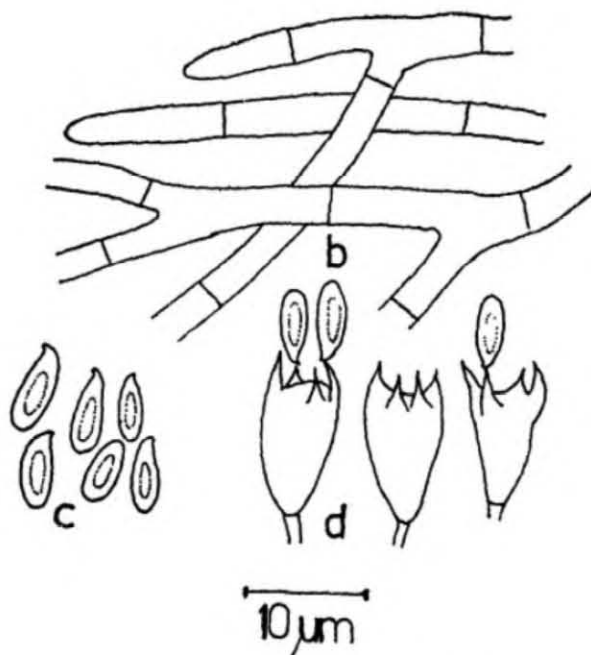
Holotypus : India, Meghalaya, Khasi hills, Raliang forest, ad Sylvam, 25.9.1986, JRS 60108 (CAL, Isotypi in BAFC).

Fruitbody annual, centrally stipitate, coriaceous soft when fresh, hard and rigid on drying; pileus infundibuliform or depressed at centre, circular, 5-8 mm in diameter, 1-1.5 mm thick, finely depressed velutinate, deep golden brown to cinnamon brown, shiny to glossy, narrowly concentrically zonate; margin sharp, deflexed when dry, ciliate; pore surface rusty brown, with a narrow sterile margin; pores angular, 2-4 per mm, entire, becoming uneven near stipe with age; tubes up to 1 mm deep, light golden brown to ochraceous brown; context up to 0.5 mm thick, rusty brown, fibrous; stipe equal or tapering upwards, usually swollen at base, up to 2 cm long and 1-1.5 mm in diameter, finely tomentose to more velutinate towards base, light rusty brown to dark brown.

Hyphal system monomitic, generative hyphae with septa, branched at broad angles,



Coltricia pusilla Sharma et Wright—a. Basidiocarps



Coltricia pusilla Sharma et Wright

Figs. a-d : a. Basidiocarps. b. Generative hyphae. c. Basidiospores. d. Basidia.

golden brown, 4-7 μm wide; spores oblong-ellipsoid, smooth, slightly thick walled, golden brown, nonamyloid, 5-6.5 \times 3-4.2 μm .

Habitat: On ground in coniferous forests.

Specimens examined: Meghalaya, Khasi hills, Raliang forest (6500 m), on ground, JRS 60108 (Holotype CAL, Isotype BAFC); Meghalaya, Khasi hills, Amarliang forest (6000 m), on ground, JRS 60115 (CAL).

This species is distinct by small reddish brown basidiocarps, shiny pilear surface with ciliate margin and smaller spores. *C. perennis* (Fr.) Murr. is morphologically somewhat similar in colour, pore size, habitat and faintly zoned pilear surface but has dull,

larger basidiocarps and spores (6-9.5 \times 3.5-4.5 μm). *C. cinnamomea* (Pers.) Murr. also has larger basidiocarps and spores (6-9.5 \times 4.5-6.5 μm). In addition, *C. cinnamomea* grows in deciduous forests. *C. montagnei* (Fr.) Murr. is, of course differentiated by azonate, larger pilei (up to 8 cm wide and 10 mm thick); pores (1-3 per mm) and spores (8-12.5 \times 5.5-8 μm).

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OIDIUM BONPLANDIANI—A NEW SPECIES OF POWDERY MILDEW FROM COIMBATORE, INDIA

The Euphorbiaceae plant, *Croton bonplandianum* Baill., grows as a weed along the roads and in wastelands in and around Coimbatore. These plants are infected with a powdery mildew fungus. The infection is restricted to the lower surface of the leaves but a few infection spots are also observed on the upper surface of the leaves. The fungus persists in its conidial form. Ponnappa (1970) has described *Kokkalera crotonis* on this host from Bangalore, Karnataka. After the examination of the type material, Braun (1984) made the genus *Kokkalera* Ponnappa synonymous to *Sphaerotheca* Lev. because of the presence of conidia in chains and also the presence of appendages. Further, Braun (1987) states that the original description of the taxon is insufficient, misleading and the anamorph description in mystery. Since the present fungus is in its anamorph stage, it is necessary to propose a name. Hence, it is described here as a new species.

Oidium bonplandiani Hosagoudar, *sp. nov.*

Plagulae infectionis foliicolae, plerumque hypophyllae, albae, densae, ad 2 mm diam., plerumque confluentis. Hyphae mycelii effusae, albae, ramosae, septatae, 6-8 μm latae. Appressoria mammilliformis. Conidiophorae erectae, simplices, 139-233 \times 15-18.5 μm . Fundus pedis rectae, cylindratae, 46-74.5 \times 12-14 μm . Conidia catenulatae (6-10), ovoideae vel ellipsoideae, 24-40.5 \times 15-17 μm .

Infection spots foliicolous, mostly hypophyllous, white, dense, up to 2 mm in diameter, mostly confluent. Hyphae effuse, white, branched, septate, 6-8 μm in breadth. Appressoria mammilliform. Conidiophores erect, simple, 139-233 \times 15-18.5 μm (including conidia). Foot cells straight, cylindrical, 46-74.5 \times 12-14 μm . Conidia in chains of 6-10, ovoid to ellipsoid, 24-40.5 \times 15-17 μm .

Holotype: On leaves of *Croton bonplan-*