

Catinaria Vainio
(LECANORALES: BACIDIACEAE)

After various authors

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Thallus crustose, thin, uniform. Photobiont Trentepohlia. Apothecia lecideine, sessile, round to irregular or with crenate margins, as a rule black or dark brown, at least the young ones with thick puffy margin and flat nonpruinose disks, later slightly convex and immarginate. Excipulum composed of radiating, rather thick hyphae, dark; not emerald green. Hypothecium pale or dark. Hymenium I+ deep blue. Paraphyses richly occurring, simple, or, above all in the region of the epihymenium, also branched and anastomosing, with the tips slightly clavate thickened. Asci clavate to cylindrical, with amyloid tholus; ocular chamber and axial mass present. Spores 8, rarely 12-14, per ascus, broadly ellipsoid, under 20 μm long, rather thick-walled, with one thin-walled septum in the center, somewhat constricted at septum, colorless. Excipulum and hypothecium often interspersed. On bark or wood.

Definition, boundary and size of the genus, most of whose species were earlier under Catillaria, are still unclear. [Note: the description above, from Poelt & Vezda, is somewhat different from that of Rogers, who states that the asci are bitunicate and I-]. Galloway's description mostly follows Poelt & Vezda's but includes (as the only species treated) Megalaria grossa.

1. Apothecia 0.2-0.6(-0.8) mm wide. Spores 9-15 x 5-7 μm , 8 per ascus, ellipsoid, with smooth walls to 1.5 μm thick. Apothecia reddish brown to dull black; disc at first concave, later flat or sometimes convex; true exciple dark, at first prominent, later sometimes excluded, dark brown at edge, colorless to pale brown within, the hyphae coherent in K, 1.5-2.5 μm wide but thickened by pigment at outer edge. Hymenium 60-75 μm tall, colorless. Hypothecium colorless to pale brownish, K-. Epihymenium yellowish to pale or dark brown, K-, N-. Paraphyses 0.8-1 μm wide, simple or sparsely branched above; apices \pm swollen, to 2 μm wide, often with dark brown hood 3(-4) μm wide. Asci clavate, with uniformly K/I+ blue apical dome. Thallus thin or indistinct, effuse, pale to dark gray brown, often minutely granular; granules 15-70 μm diam., \pm immersed, often scattered, with minutely speckled appearance when on light colored bark. Photobiont cells 5-9 μm diam. No lichen substances. On bark or bryophytes on bark, on trunks of mature trees (especially Fraxinus, Quercus), sometimes on mossy branches, rarely on wood of fallen trees.C. atropurpurea

1. Apothecia 0.7 mm or more wide. Spores mostly over 14 μm long, sometimes fewer than 8/ascus. Thallus sometimes distinct. 2

2. Spores 50-56 x 16-22 um, 2(-4)/ascus, 1-septate. Thallus glaucous gray, without isidia. Apothecia 0.8-4.0 mm diam., dark to black, epruinose; exciple dark, persistent or excluded. C. versicolor (Fée) Sipman (was under Bacidia and Lecidea)

2. Spores 12-17 x 6-8 um. Apothecia 0.7-2 mm wide, black or brown, soon convex, the margin concolorous with disc or paler. 3

3. Epihymenium violet brown or blue-black, K+ violet. Hypothecium red-brown, K+ purple-red; hymenium 65 um. Apothecial margin black (to dirty yellowish). Megalaria laureri

3. Epihymenium black or blue-black, K-; hypothecium ± hyaline to red-brown, K-; hymenium 80-90 um. Apothecial margin pale. Megalaria albocincta

ADD:

C. subcorallina (Zahlbr.) Brako (see Phyllopsora?)

Literature

Awasthi. 19 . Microlichens of India, etc.

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