



Morphological characters and molecular data reveal a new species of *Hydnocristella* (Gomphales, Basidiomycota) from southwestern China

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With 3 figures and 1 table

Abstract: Two hydroid and resupinate specimens were collected from Sichuan Province, southwestern China. They are described and illustrated here as a new species, *Hydnocristella latihypha*, based on a combination of morphological characters and rDNA sequences data. The new species is characterized by an annual growth habit, resupinate and hydroid basidiocarps, a monomitic hyphal structure with clamped generative hyphae, wide tramal hyphae, and smooth fusiform basidiospores measured as 10.2–12.2 × 4.2–5.5 μm. In the phylogenetic perspective, *H. latihypha* is closely related to *H. himantia*, the generic type, and nested within the Lentariaceae clade, but the latter species has narrow tramal hyphae and smaller basidiospores measured as 8–10 × 4–5 μm.

Key words: hydroid fungi, Lentariaceae, phylogeny, taxonomy, wood-rotting fungi.

Introduction

Kavinia Pilát (1938), typified by *K. sajanensis* (Pilát) Pilát (= *Kavinia alboviridis* (Morgan) Gilb. & Budington), was introduced for fungi with an annual growth habit, resupinate and hydroid basidiocarps, a monomitic hyphal structure with clamp connections, and oblong, subcylindrical or fusiform and non-amyloid basidiospores bearing cyanophilous warts (Eriksson & Ryvarden 1976, Boidin & Gilles 2000, Bernicchia & Gorjón 2010). Petersen (1971) indicated that *K. himantia* (Schwein.) J.Erikss. differs from other *Kavinia* species by its smooth basidiospores, and he proposed another genus *Hydnocristella* R.H. Petersen to accommodate the hydroid fungal species with smooth basidiospores. So far only the type species of *Hydnocristella*, *H. himantia* (Schwein.) R.H.Petersen, was recorded in the genus. Recently, phylogenetic studies

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