

A New Species of *Dasyscyphus* S. F. GRAY (Hyaloscyphaceae) from India

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Summary. A new species, *Dasyscyphus kumaonicus* SHARMA, is described and illustrated from Kumaon hills in the North-Western Himalayas, India.

Introduction

During the course of studies on Incoperculate Discomycetes of North-Western Himalayas (SHARMA, 1976), large number of collections of the genus *Dasyscyphus* were made. In the present communication a new species, *D. kumaonicus*, is described and illustrated. The type material has been deposited in PAN herbarium. The isotype is located at TAA.

Free hand sections of the fruitingbodies have been mounted in 2—3% potassium hydroxyde, 1% aqueous phloxine or in Melzer's reagent (after AINSWORTH, 1971). Line drawings were made with a camera lucida (Erma).

The abbreviations of the herbaria are taken from HOLMGREN & KEUKEN (1974).

Description

Dasyscyphus kumaonicus SHARMA, sp. nov. — Figs. 1, 1—3.

Ascocarpi ad 950 μm diam. et ad 0.6 mm. alt., dense gregarii, nonnunquam dispersi, superficiales, molles, carnosi, cupulati, brevipedicellati; superficies externa flavo-brunnea, aspera, hirsuta; superficies hymenii concolora, concava, aspera; margo integra, siccitate involuta. Stipes parvus, ad $350 \times 120 \mu\text{m}$, cylindricus, concolorus ut superficies externa, hirsutus. Pili usque ad $120 \times 5 \mu\text{m}$, flavo-brunnei, incrassati, septati, simplices, grosse granulati, apicibus parum acutis. Asci $75-112 \times 6.5-9.5 \mu\text{m}$ 8-sporatae, J+, clavato-cylindrici, apicibus obtusis, sensim infra attenuati in basin parvam cauliformem parum tumidum e cellula crocea ortum. Ascosporae $40-68 (-75) \times 1.5-2.5 \mu\text{m}$, fasciculatae, cylindricae, extremo supremo dilatae, multiseptatae (usque ad 19 septa), haud guttulate. Paraphyses — $3 \mu\text{m}$ latae, anguste lanceolatae, hyalinae, parietibus tenuibus, haud septatae, simplices, apicibus valde acutis. Excipulum bistratosum: excipulum ectale usque ad $32 \mu\text{m}$ crass.; textura prismatica, cellulae parietibus tenuibus usque ad $10 \times 5.7 \mu\text{m}$ latae, hyalinae, seriatim dispositae, superficies externa hirsuta (vide supra); excipulum medullosum usque ad $45 \mu\text{m}$ crass.; textura intricata, hyphae parietibus tenuibus, septatae, angustae. — $2.2 \mu\text{m}$ lat.; hypothecium haud distinctum. Stipes cortice a medulla haud separabili, omnis texturae porrectae; hyphae parietibus tenuibus, — $4 \mu\text{m}$ latae. Substratum in caulibus emortuis Bambusae arundinaceae RETZ. Holotypus PAN 11069.

Ascocarp up to 950 μm across and up to 0.6 mm in total height, densely gregarious, sometimes scattered, superficial, soft, fleshy, cupulate, short-stalked; external surface yellowish-brown, roughened, hairy; hymenial surface concolorous concave, roughened;

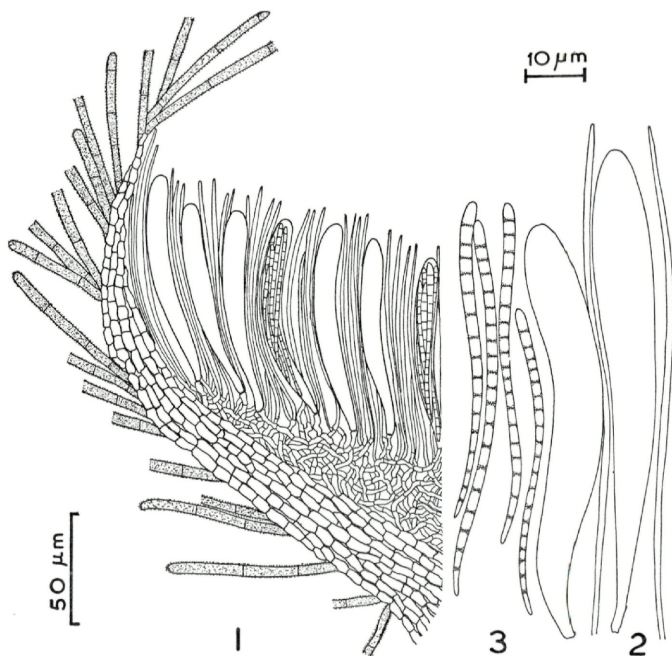


Fig. 1. *Dasyscyphus kumaonicus* SHARMA (type): 1. Vertical section of the apothecium showing granulated hairs, textura prismatica of ectal excipulum, textura intricata of medullary excipulum and hymenium. — 2. Asci and paraphyses. — 3. Ascospores

margin entire, inrolled on drying. Stipe small, up to $350 \times 120 \mu\text{m}$, cylindrical, concolorous with the external surface hairy. Hairs up to $120 \times 5 \mu\text{m}$, yellowish-brown, thick-walled, septate, simple, coarsely granulated, apices somewhat pointed. Asci $75-112 \times 65-9.5 \mu\text{m}$, 8-spored, J+, clavate-cylindrical, apices obtuse, gradually tapering below into a small stem-like base, which is slightly swollen and arise from a crozier cell. Ascospores $40-68 (-75) \times 1.5-2.5 \mu\text{m}$,

fasciculated, cylindrical with upper broader and lower narrower ends, multiseptate, up to 19 septa have been observed, aguttulate. Paraphyses up to 3 μ m wide, narrowly lanceolate, hyaline, thin-walled, non septate, unbranched, sharply pointed at the tips, projecting up to 18 μ m beyond the tips of asci. Excipulum two layered; ectal excipulum up to 32 μ m thick (textura prismatica), cells thin-walled up to 10×5.7 μ m wide, hyaline, placed end to end, outer surface beset with hairs (as described above); medullary excipulum up to 45 μ m thick (textura intricata), hyphae thin-walled, septate, narrow, up to 2.2 μ m wide; hypothecium indistinct. Anatomy of stipe undifferentiated (textura porrecta), hyphae thin-walled, up to 4 μ m wide.

Substrat: On dead stems of *Bambusa arundinacea* RETZ.

Material: INDIA: Uttar Pradesh State, Nainital, Land's End (1980 m), 9. IX. 1973, M. P. SHARMA (PAN, 11069, holotype); TAA isotype). — Same locality, 19. IX. 1973, M. P. SHARMA.

Etymology: The name of the specific epithet refers to the Kumaon hills where the collections are made.

Remarks: This bambusicolous species undoubtedly belongs to the genus *Dasyascyphus*, but does not match well with any of its known species. It differs from other allied bambusicolous species *D. bambusae* RICK and *D. bambusinus* (BRES.) DENNIS in having smaller apothecia and asci and larger ascospores respectively.

Belonium discolor (MONT.) RAITV., which has long, multiseptate ascospores differs in having much larger, bright yellow apothecia, longer asci and smaller ascospores. Also it differs in being inomidiotic.

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