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LAETICORTICIUM LOMBARDIAE (APHYLLOPHORALES, CORTICIACEAE): A NEWLY RECOGNIZED SEGREGATE FROM THE *L. ROSEUM* COMPLEX

MICHAEL J. LARSEN

Center for Forest Mycology Research, Forest Products Laboratory, Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Madison, Wisconsin 53705 [1]

AND

ROBERT L. GILBERTSON

Department of Plant Pathology, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721

In 1977, we (5) indicated several apparently isomorphic species were placed in the "*Laeticorticium roseum* complex." We stated that to delineate these similar species effectively, data on spore size from freshly discharged basidiospores, sexuality, interfertility tests among similar populations, and host specificity must be obtained.

From previous studies we (3–5) concluded that *L. roseum* (Pers. per Fr.) Donk is homothallic. Also, we agree with the suggestion of Boidin et al. (1) that their *L. roseum* group A on *Populus* sp. was probably what Persoon had in hand when the fungus was described. Furthermore, our data on the *L, roseum* complex indicated that apparently a large-spored segregate (now referred to by us as *L. roseum*), as well as a small-spored segregate, occurs on *Populus* throughout North America.

We recently obtained spore prints and, subsequently, single and polysporous cultures of the small-spored form on *Populus* sp. from Wisconsin. Our investigations of this fungus indicate that it differs from *L. roseum* in mating type and spore size.

Photomicrographs were prepared with the aid of a Leitz Orthomat camera. Capital letters used to designate herbaria are those of Holmgren and Keuken (2).

Laeticorticium lombardiae Larsen & Gilbertson, sp. nov. FIG. 1

Etymology : named for Mrs. Frances F. Lombard, commemorating her past and continuing contributions to mycology.

[1] Maintained in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

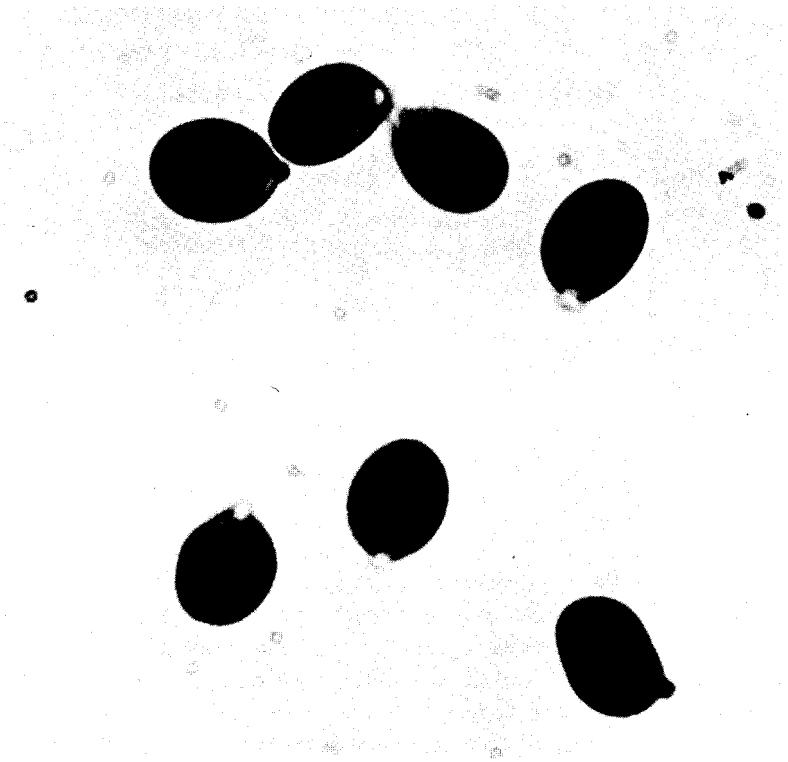

FIG. 1. Basidiospores of *Laeticorticium lombardiae* (from holotype). Scale 1 μm = 1.5 mm.

A *Laeticorticium roseum* typica basidiocarpis similiter sed effusis in ramis dejectis; basidiis 50–70 × 9–10.5 (–11) μm; basidiosporis 9–11 × 5.5–7 μm.

Heterothallinis et bipolaribus.

Holotypus — U.S.A., Wisconsin, Oneida County, proximus Minocqua, Kemp Biological Station, ad ramis dejectis *Populus* sp., legit F. F. Lombard et R. G. Payne, 14 VIII 1973, FP 101261 (CFMR), et isotoypus in BPI.

Basidiocarps similar in most ways to *Laeticorticium roseum*, but in *L. lombardiae* appearing effused and less determinant in growth. Basidia 50–70 × 9–10.5 (–11) μm. Basidiospores 9–1 1 × 5.5–7 μm.

Mating pattern heterothallic-bipolar. Single spores from the type specimen designated as either the A or the B type and maintained in the CFMR culture collection FP-101261-Sp A-1, 2, 5, 7, 12: B-6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14. 15, 18, 19.

Laeticorticium lombardiae differs from *L. roseum* in having smaller spores and bipolar heterothallism. Numerous other specimens have

been tentatively grouped with this name, and attempts have been made without success to obtain single-spore isolates from them. Morphological data on European collections of *L. roseum* with small spores suggests that *L. lombardiae* may occur also on that continent.

Di-mon crosses between *L. lombardiae* and the homothallic *L. roseum* and heterothallic *L. roseum* group B of Boidin et al (1), have proven negative.

We thank Mrs. Kate Nishijima for her capable and responsible technical assistance.

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