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Clitocella obscura (Basidiomycetes, Agaricales) found in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Entolomataceae
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Abstract: An interesting Bosnian collection of *Rhodocybe obscura*, recently combined with *Clitocella*, is described on a morphological base with colour images of the fruitbodies and their main micro characters.

INTRODUCTION

Fresh basidiomes were photographed in situ; all data and images of microcharacters were obtained from observations on fresh material. The collection is housed in D. Trivič's personal herbarium.

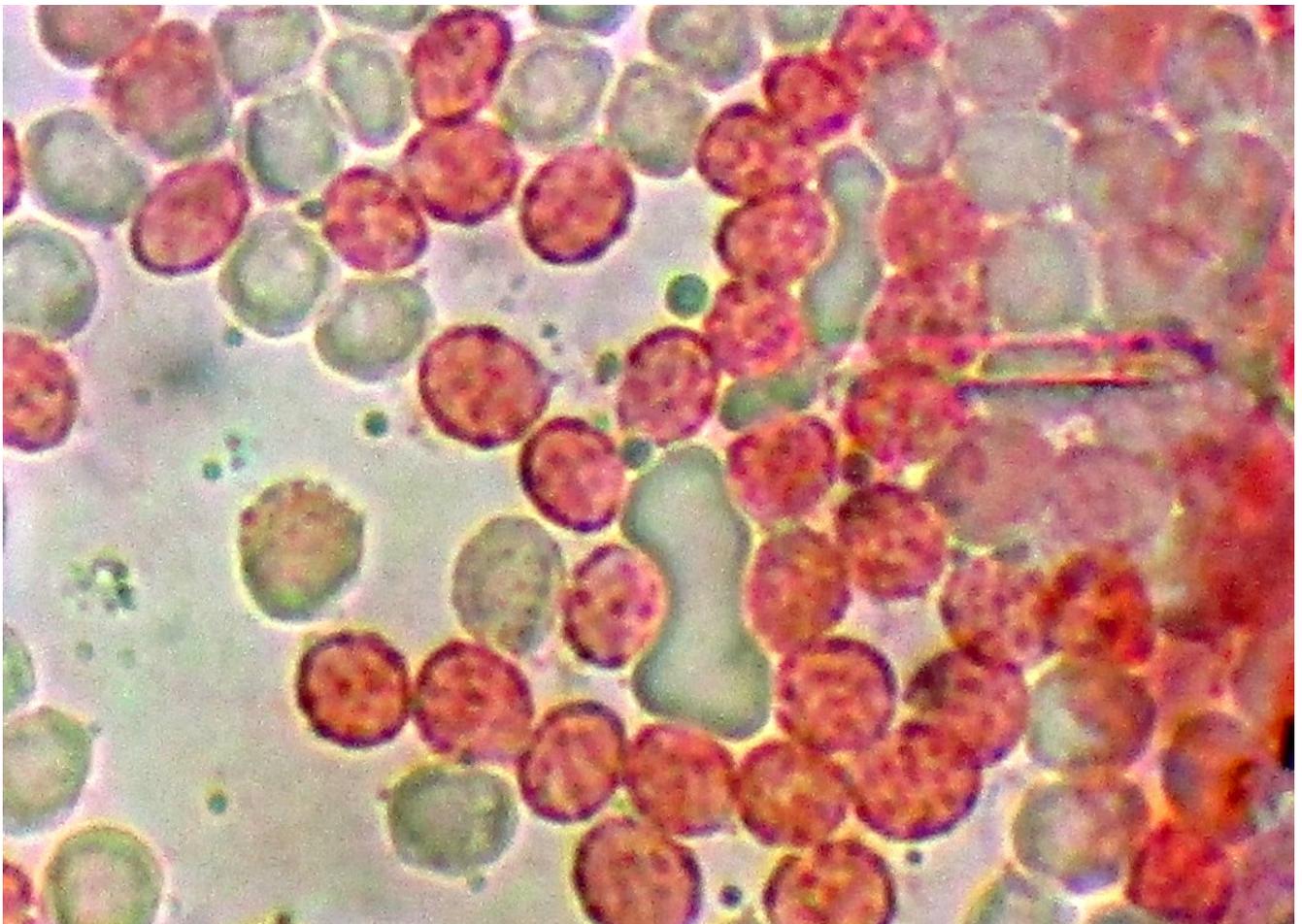
Clitocella obscura (Pilát) Vizzini, Consiglio & M. Marchetti
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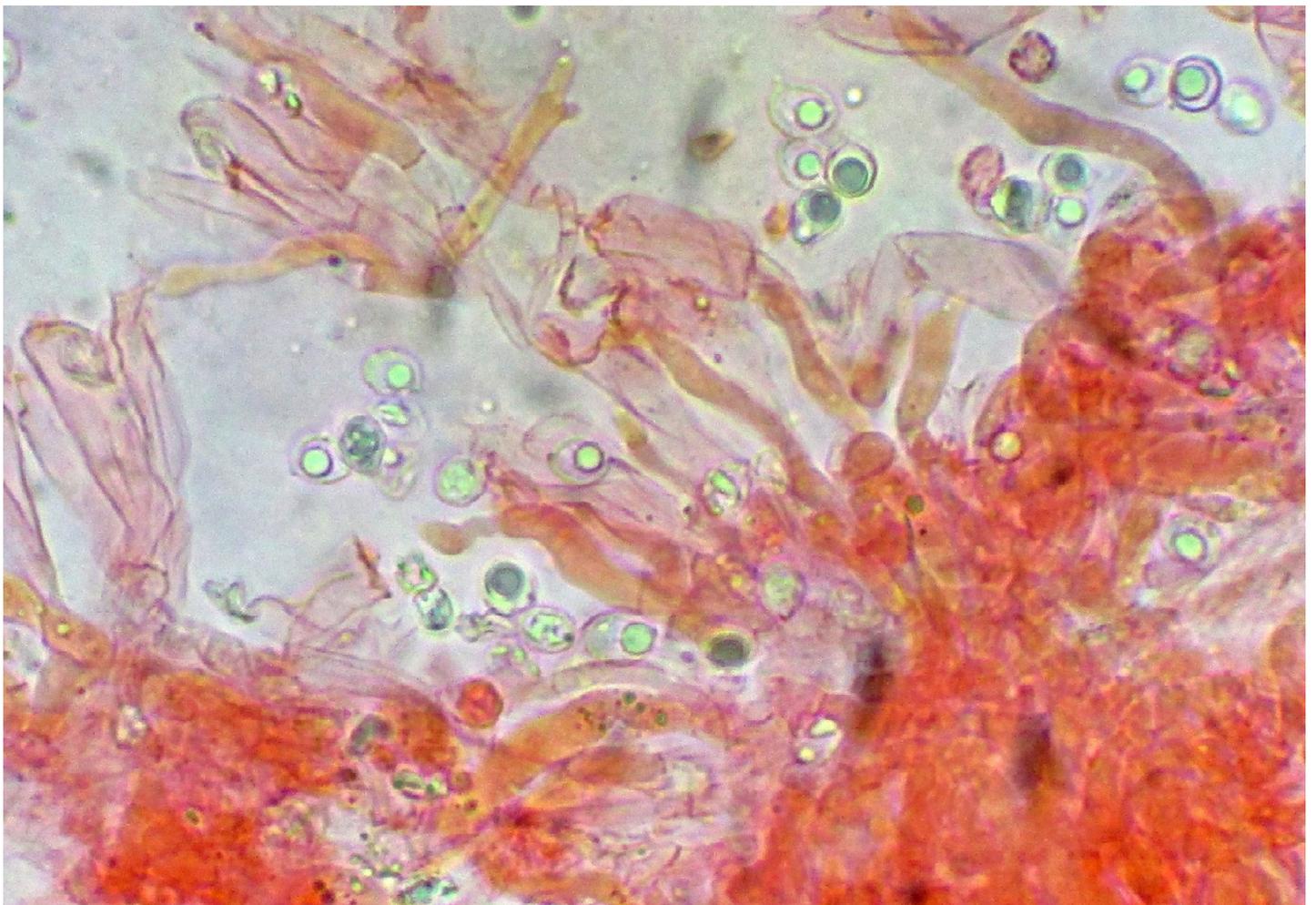
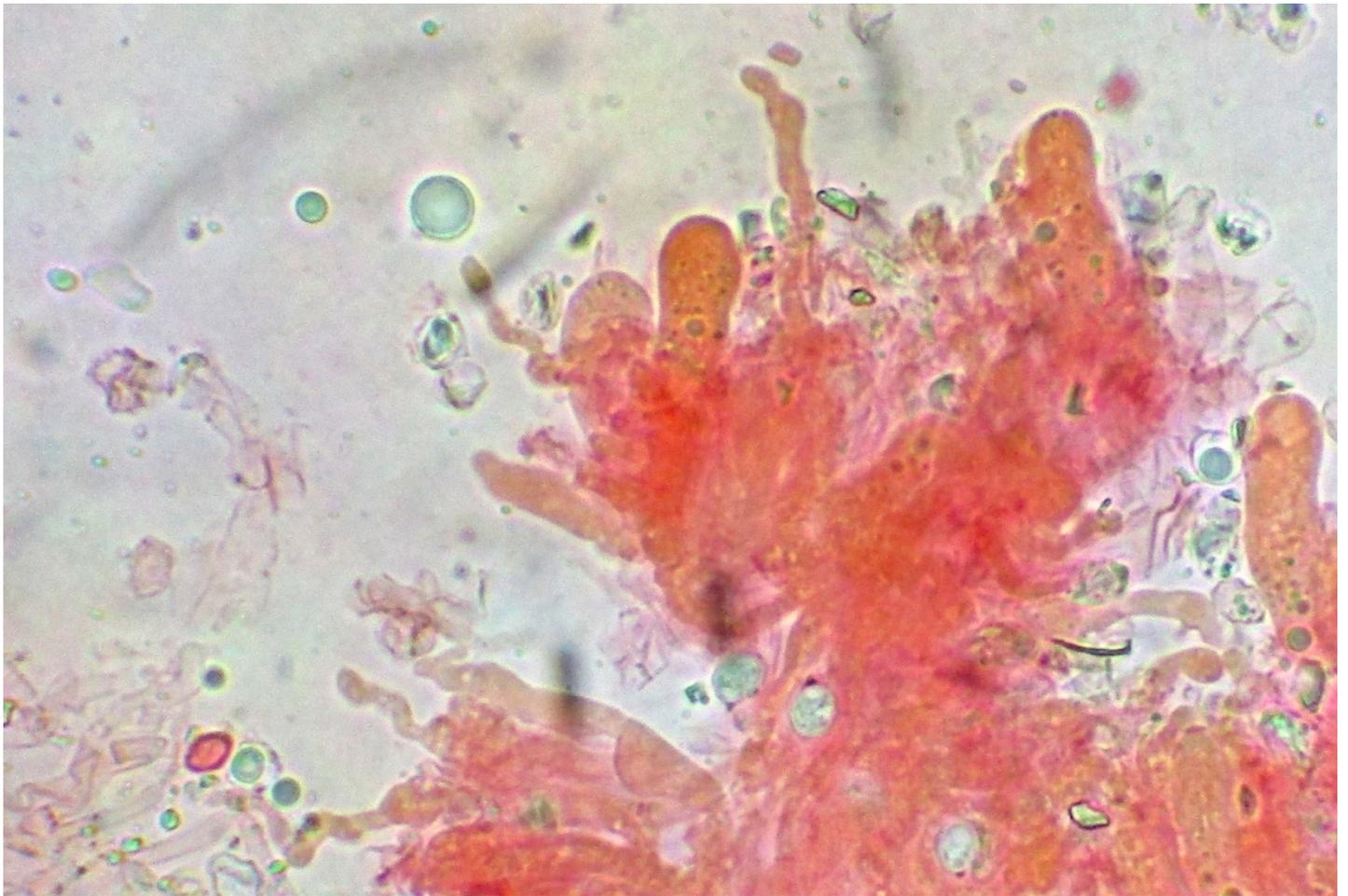
BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Pileus convex then applanate to sub depressed, margin lobed to wavy, involute, only tardily expanded; dark to pale grey, sometimes weakly zonate, when old also dirtied with brownish tints, paler to whitish at margin, covered with a whitish pruina and with scattered darkish guttulae. Gills close, with lamellulae, decurrent to broadly adnate, pale grey then ochraceous greyish-pinkish. Stipe short to not longer than the pileus diameter, robust, pale grey, pruinose. Taste bitterish; KOH reaction on pileus: reddish.





Spores



Cheilocystidia

Spores 6.0 – 8.0 × 4.0 – 6.5 μm, Q = 1.05 – 1.35, broadly ellipsoid to almost globose, verruculose, germ pore absent, apiculus distinct. Pleurocystidia absent. Gill edge heteromorphous with cheilocystidia and basidia. Cheilocystidia 30.0 – 60.0 × 3.0 – 7.5 μm, cylindraceous with irregular to nodulose or twisted outline, base sometimes septate, moderately numerous. Caulocystidia 40.0 – 45.0 × 4.0 – 6.5 μm, similar to cheilocystidia. Clamp connections absent.

Habitat and collection examined: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Banja Luka, mount Kozara, 680 m s.l.m., gregarious on litter of *Picea abies*, 17 and 18 June 2023, D. Trivič, in pers. herb.

NOTES

Clitocella obscura is a species of rare frequency but well known and diffused in central Europe. Its main characteristics are a grey, pruinose and guttulate pileus, a bitter taste, a reddish reaction of the pileus with KOH, subglobose spores, the presence of marginal cells on the gill edge, and a habitat of conifer trees.

The data of this Bosnian collection are in good correspondence with those of the original description by Pilát (1953, as *Rhodopaxillus obscurus*) and those found in some other published descriptions consulted (Baroni 1981; Contu 2002; Moreau 1997; as *Rhodocybe obscura*).

The closest species, both on a morphological and phylogenetic base, *Clitocella nigrescens* (Maire) Consiglio [which includes *Rhodocybe cupressicola* Carassai, Papa & Contu (see Moreau, Contu & Guinberteau 2008), *R. horakii* Pacioni & Lalli, *R. malençonii* Pacioni & Lalli and *R. ammophila* (Malençon) Pacioni & Lalli (see Vizzini, Consiglio & Marchetti 2023)], *C. mundula* (Lasch) Kluting, T.J. Baroni & Bergemann and *C. popinalis* (Fr.) Kluting, T.J. Baroni & Bergemann are distinguished by lacking marginal cells. Moreover *C. mundula* has distinctly smaller spores (on average smaller than 6 × 5 μm) and rarely grey tones on the pileus, *C. nigrescens* grows in sandy soil, and *C. popinalis* grows in grassy soil (once also found on maritime dunes).

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