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***Hysteropeltella moravica* (Ascomycota, Dothideales) in Bosnia**

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Abstract: Based on a morphological study, a collection of *Hysteropeltella moravica* is described from Bosnia and Herzegovina on *Thuja* branches in a moist environ. This finding expands its diffusion to the Balkans and its growth substratum to plants of *Thuja*.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Hysteropeltella* Petr. was established by Petrak (1923) to accommodate the species *H. moravica* Petr. and since then it has remained a monospecific genus. Its distinguishing characters among the fungi informally and classically called Discomycetes are elongate apothecial ascomata; broadly oblong to ellipsoidal or clavate asci with an amyloid apex; and uniseptate, clavate-oblong to fusoid or ellipsoidal ascospores. Its placement in *Dothideomycetes* was first proposed by Lumbsch and Huhndorf (2010).

Based on information extracted from the website <https://dothideomycetes.org/>, *Hysteropeltella* is currently, though pending molecular conformation, included in the family *Patellariaceae* Corda, as proposed by Yacharoen, Tian, Chomnunti *et al.* (2015), while in a previous study by Ariyawansa *et al.* (2013) it had been placed in *Schizothyriaceae* Höhn. ex Trotter [as '*Schizothyrieae*'].

To date, no collection attributed to it has ever been sequenced.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Basidiocarps were photographed in the field using Canon Ixus 185 and Canon Ixus 285 HS cameras. Microscopy data and images were obtained from fresh material observed in Melzer's solution.



BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Hysteropeltella moravica Petr.

Annales Mycologici 21(1-2):10 (1923)

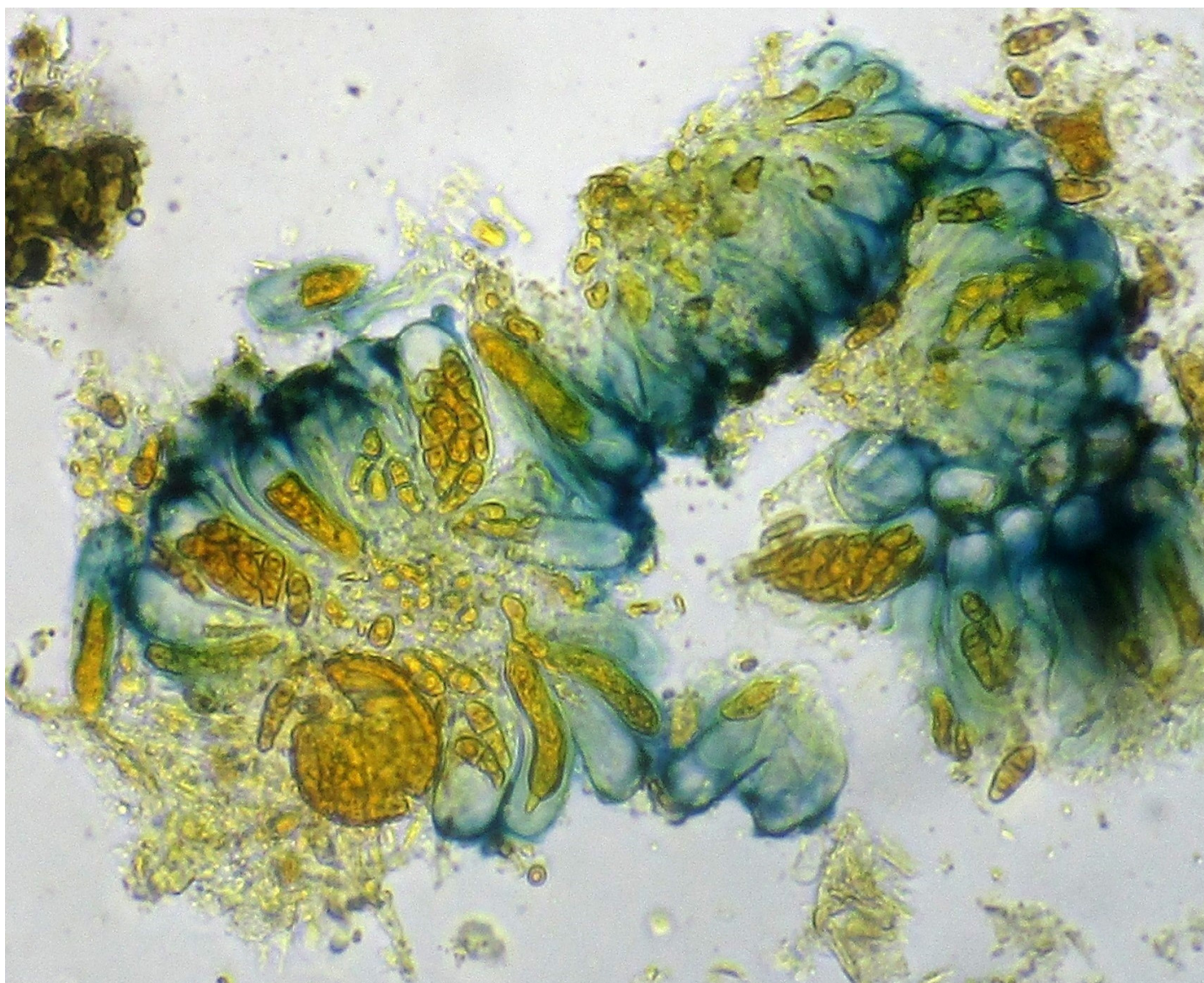
Ascomata composed of up to 1 mm elongate, isolated apotheci with a coriaceous consistency; peridium thin, glabrous, dark brown in colour; at maturity opening longitudinally like a slit and exposing a pale hymenial surface.

Ascospores 12.6–13.9 × 4.6–6.0 µm, on average 13.2 × 5.5 µm, Q = 2.28–2.68, on average 2.44; narrowly clavate with slightly restricted septum more or less in the median position; hyaline, light brown in Melzer's reagent.

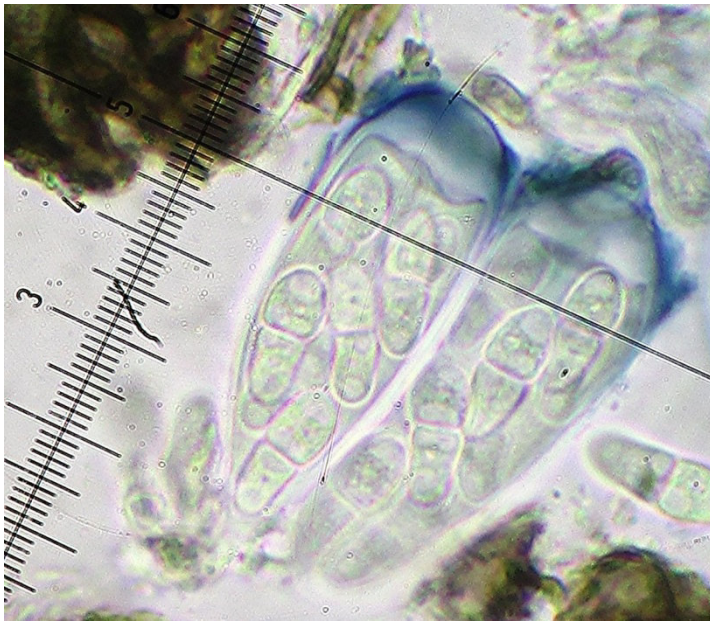
Asci 35.6–50.0 × 12.3–17.0 µm, mostly ellipsoid-clavate to narrowly clavate, mostly sessile, 8-spored, bitunicate, walls thickened at the apex; apex broadly rounded to subtruncate, turning blue with Melzer's reagent (amyloid).

Pseudoparaphyses not observed.

Collection examined and Habitat: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Prijedor; growing scattered, saprobic on wet soil on debarked branches of *Thuja* sp. abundantly covered with litter of two-year-old stems of decayed *Carex* sp., also plants of *Juncus* sp. nearby; 2 March 2025, legit D. Trivič (in pers. herb.).



Hymenium in Melzer's reagent



Asci in Melzer's reagent



Ascospores in Melzer's reagent

NOTES

Hysteropeltella moravica was first described in 1923 on ferns (*Aspidium filix-mas*, currently known as *Dryopteris filix-mas*) from central Europe, in the Czech region of Moravia. The only other heterotypic description known so far is that of Holm & Holm (1978) on ferns from Sweden which expands its diffusion to North Europe.

The Bosnian collection introduces its presence in the Balkans and its growth on a different substrate, apparently composed of debarked dead *Thuja sp.* branches but which are covered with abundant fragments of two-year-old decayed *Carex* stems, so that the possible presence of minuscule *Carex* particles cannot be ruled out. These data seem to confirm an ecological preference for plants that love moist to wet substrates.

The synoptic table below shows the dimensions of the spores and asci taken from the consulted literature.

Author	ascospores	asci
Petrak (1923), protolog	12–15 × 5–6.5 µm	32–44 × 12–15 µm (30 × 18–20 µm when ovoid)
Holm & Holm (1978), on ferns in Sweden	11–13 × 5 µm	30–36 × 12–15 µm
Ariyawansa <i>et al.</i> (2013), type revision	10–18 × 4–6 µm, av. 15 × 4 µm	35–45 × 15–25 µm, av. 40 × 20 µm

Holm & Holm (1978) and Ariyawansa *et al.* (2013) report that mature ascospores acquire a light brown pigmentation.

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