

## The Genus *Myriospora*

RICHARD C. HARRIS<sup>1</sup> & KERRY KNUDSEN<sup>2</sup>

**ABSTRACT.** – *Myriospora* Nägeli ex Hue, previously placed in synonymy with *Acarospora* A. Massal., is considered to be distinct. The nomenclature of the generic name *Myriospora* and its type species are reviewed and both are lectotypified.

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Lendemer & Harris (2004) casually proposed resurrecting *Myriospora* as a segregate from *Acarospora* A. Massal. for *Acarospora heppii* Nägeli ex Körb. and Harris (2004) transferred *Acarospora immersa* Fink ex J. Hedrick to *Myriospora*, blithely assuming that Zahlbrückner (Cat. lich. univ. 5: 51. 1927) was correct in attributing the place of publication to Hepp's exsiccate (Flecht. Eur. 57, 1853). When the nomenclature was reviewed for Knudsen's treatment for the Sonoran *Acarospora*, it was discovered that this was incorrect and that the nomenclatural situation was more complex.

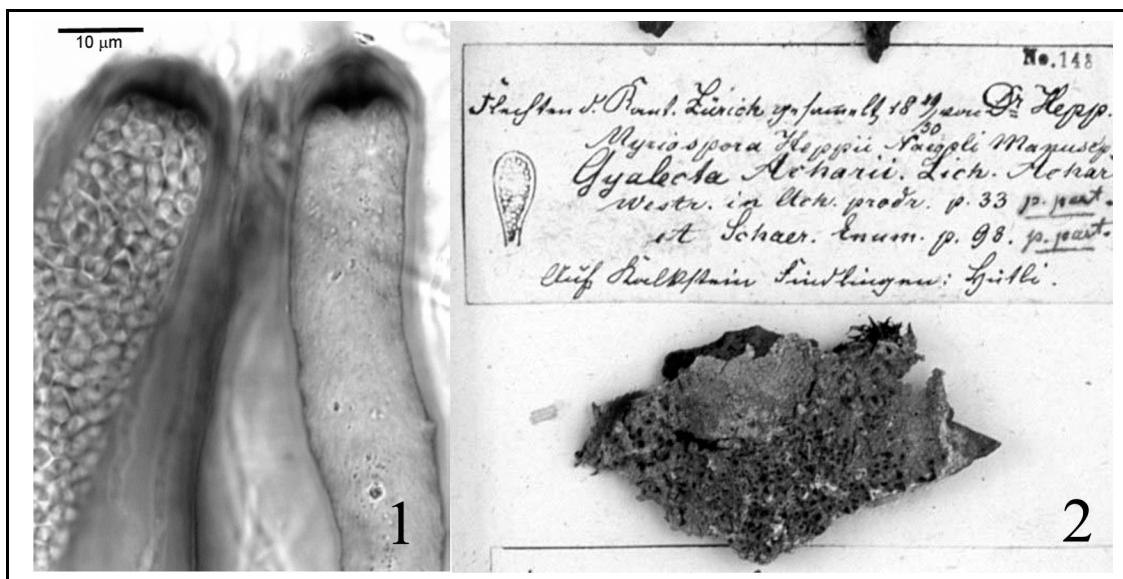
Hue (1909) recognized *Myriospora* because it differed anatomically from *Acarospora* DC. in having emergent, lecanorine apothecia with lateral exciple only, similar to that found in *Pertusaria* DC. *Myriospora* is currently considered to contain two species: *M. heppii* (Nägeli ex Körb.) Hue. and *M. immersa* (Fink ex J. Hedrick) R.C. Harris. They are distinguished from *Acarospora* by the deep blue staining of the tholus in K/I (fig. 1). Unlike the majority of other species assigned to *Acarospora*, the genus has an epinecral layer instead of a syncortex. One other *Acarospora* is known to the second author to have a true epinecral layer, *A. nodulosa* (Duf.) Hue. *Myriospora* species appear to usually produce crystals in the true exciple, a character that needs further study. The value of pruina on the apothecial disk as a character separating *M. immersa* from *M. heppii* needs to be evaluated further.

*Myriospora heppii* first appeared as a *nomen nudum* in Hepp's *Systematische Sammlung* (1849-1852), an apparently rare exsiccate (fig. 2). Our nomenclatural treatment below is based on the available evidence which indicates that the first four fascicles of Hepp's *Flechten Europas* were published simultaneously. They are treated by Hepp (1853) in a single issue of the supplementary publication illustrating the ascospores, the four are uniformly dated to 1853 by all references seen and Nylander (1854) reviewed the four as a unit. Additionally, where more precise dates of publication are available for later fascicles (Lynge, 1916), it was Hepp's practice to issue several fascicles simultaneously, i.e., fasc. 5-7 (July 1857), fasc. 10-12 (Aug 1860), fasc. 13-16 (Apr 1867). In 1853 three species of *Myriospora* were included, *M. rufescens* (Borr.) Hepp [fasc. 1, no. 56], *M. heppii* Nägeli ex Hepp [fasc. 2, no. 57], *M. macrospora* Hepp [fasc. 2, no. 58]. There is no separate description of the genus *Myriospora*. The three names are not validly published (ICBN Art. 43). The compilers of *Index Genericorum*, apparently believing that fascicle 1 of the *Flechten Europas* antedated fascicle 2, considered *Myriospora* to be a monotypic genus with *M. rufescens* as the type species, in which case *Myriospora* would be validated as a combined generic/specific description (ICBN Art. 42). However, this applies only when a single species is involved and, assuming the first four fascicles were published simultaneously, this would not be the case here. If the *Index Genericorum* view were to be accepted, *Myriospora* would be a synonym of *Acarospora*, throwing out what seems to be a useful and appropriate generic name. We consider *Myriospora* not to have been validated until 1909.

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<sup>1</sup> Richard C. Harris: Institute of Systematic Botany, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY, 10458-5126, USA.

<sup>2</sup> Kerry Knudsen: Lichen Curator, Herbarium, Department of Botany & Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0124, USA. - e-mail: kk999@msn.com



*Myriospora heppii*. - Fig. 1. Ascii of *Myriospora heppii* after K/I treatment, from Hepp, Flecht. Eur. 57 (NY).  
Fig. 2. Hepp, Systematische Sammlung Tab. 13, no. 148.

***Myriospora*** Nägeli ex Hue, Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 1: 164. 1909. Lectotype (designated here):  
*M. heppii* (Nägeli ex Körb.) Hue.

*Myriospora* when validated by Hue contained two species, *M. heppii* and *M. lapponica* (Ach. ex Schaer.) Hue. *Myriospora lapponica* is now placed in *Polysporina* Vězda and so to avoid making *Myriospora* a synonym of *Polysporina*, *M. heppii* is the logical choice of lectotype for the genus.

***Myriospora heppii*** (Nägeli ex Körb.) Hue, Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 1: 164. 1909.

*Myriospora heppii* Nägeli ex Hepp, Systematische Sammlung der von Dr. Hepp im Kanton Zürich Tab. 13, no. 148. n.d. nom. nud., Flecht. Eur. fasc. 2, no. 57. 1853 nom. inval. (Art. 43).

*Acarospora heppii* Nägeli ex Körb., Parerga Lich. 61. 1865. TYPE: "Auf Kalkstein – Findlingen", Hepp, Fletch. Eur. 57 (NY!), lectotype, designated here; NY!, isolectotype.

Körber cited two synonyms when publishing *Acarospora heppii*, "*Myriosporae* sp. Hepp Eur" and "*Gyalecta Acharii* Schaer. Enum. 93 pr. p. (teste Hepp)". He also cited an exsiccate specimen "Hepp Eur. 57". Given the previous uses of Nägeli's name, although these are invalid, it seems logical to choose Hepp, Flecht. Eur. 57 as the lectotype collection.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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