

Report on two lichenological field meetings in the province of Luxembourg in Belgium

by

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Abstract: During two lichenological field meetings in southern Belgium (prov. Luxembourg), a total of 237 species of lichens and lichenicolous fungi were recorded in twelve localities. Comments are provided on rare species. *Micarea vulpinaris* and *Pyrenidium actinellum* are new for the area covered by the recent checklist of Belgium, Luxembourg and northern France. *Lichenopeltella hydrophila* is new for the Belgian flora. A healthy population of *Cladonia zopfii* was rediscovered in the military domain of Lagland near Arlon.

1. Introduction

In September 2002 and 2003, two lichenological field meetings were organized in southern Belgium (prov. Luxembourg). Twelve localities in the Lorraine district and one in the Ardenne district were visited. In all localities, except one (loc. 6, see below), a rather complete inventory of the lichens and lichenicolous fungi was done. Herbarium specimens of rare or critical species are kept in the private herbaria of the authors, in BR and in LG. The purpose of this paper is to provide a list per locality of the recorded taxa (Table 1) and to comment on the most interesting species.

The participants of the 2002 meeting were Paul Diederich, Damien Ertz, Olivier Heylen, Dirk Jordaens, Jackie & Freddy Vermeulen-Poeck, Ann Walraevens.

The participants of the 2003 meeting were: Paul Diederich, Jean-Pierre Duvivier, Olivier Heylen, Dirk Jordaens, Bernard Overal, Chris & Johan Paulussen-Janssens, Emmanuël Sérusiaux, Dries Van den Broeck, Hans Vermeulen, Jackie & Freddy Vermeulen-Poeck, Ann Walraevens.

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2. Locality list

The phytogeographical districts mentioned under brackets refer to Diederich & Sérusiaux (2000: 11-26) and the grid data refer to the so-called IFBL system, commonly used in the area of study.

1. Belgium (Lorr.), Clairefontaine, gardens, walls, trees, etc. around the convent (L8.51), 8.9.2002.
2. Belgium (Lorr.), 10 km S of Arlon, W of Messancy, Jungenbusch, forest close to the road to Meix-le-Tige (M7.27), 7.9.2002.
3. Belgium (Lorr.), 10 km WSW of Arlon, large quarry on S side of road from Meix-le-Tige to Chantemelle, at c. 2.5 km ESE of Chantemelle (M7.15), 7.9.2002.
4. Belgium (Lorr.), 6.5 km NE of the centre of Virton, 3 km NNE of Ethe, 1.5 km N of the Etang de Laclaireau, forest close to stream (M7.24), 7.9.2002.
5. Belgium (Lorr.), near Virton, details on locality not given, as it hosts one of the two remaining Belgian populations of the endangered *Sticta fuliginosa*, 8.9.2002.
6. Belgium (Lorr.), 10 km W of Arlon, 2 km SSW of Sampont, sandstone quarry S of the road (L7.55), 5.9.2003.
7. Belgium (Lorr.), N of Gérardville, valley of the Soye, E of road to Bellefontaine (M7.11), 6.9.2003.
8. Belgium (Lorr.), 2 km WSW of Bellefontaine, E of ancient railway station (road to Gérardville) (L7.51), 6.9.2003.
9. Belgium (Lorr.), 1.5 km SW of Bellefontaine, trees along road to Gérardville (L7.51), 6.9.2003.
10. Belgium (Ard.), 3 km E of Chiny, along path on right shore, up to 500 m upstream and 1 km downstream of Vierre dam (L6.38), 5.9.2003.
11. Belgium (Lorr.), Arlon, military domain of Lagland, SW slope of 'Montagne de Stockem' (L7.56), heathland over decalcified sand, 7.9.2003.
12. Belgium (Lorr.), Arlon, military domain of Lagland, Kohlenberg, E of highway, SW of water tower (L7.57), alt. 400 m, heathland over decalcified sand, 7.9.2003.
13. Belgium (Lorr.), Arlon, military domain of Lagland, N slope of Engelbach, downstream of 'Pont Patton' (L7.56), alt. 350 m, mixed *Quercus* forest close to marsh, 7.9.2003.

3. Comments on interesting species

Several interesting records were already published by Sérusiaux et. al. (2003) and will not be repeated here. This mainly concerns *Placynthiella dasaea* (Stirton) Tønsb., *Pronectria pertusariicola* Lowen and *Sticta fuliginosa* (Hoffm.) Ach.

Chaenotheca brachypoda (Ach.) Tibell

Loc. 11, on a dead trunk, *P. Diederich* 15810.

A rarely collected species, previously known from two localities in Flanders and one in the Meuse district (Diederich & Sérusiaux 2000).

Cladonia cariosa (Ach.) Sprengel

Loc. 3, *P. Diederich* 15557, *D. Ertz* 2630 (BR).

A nice and healthy population covering c. 1 m² was found over sandy ground in an old quarry. The species has rarely been reported in Belgium during the past years, the only other recent record being from the Brabant district (Ertz 2003).

Cladonia zopfii Vain.

Loc. 12, *P. Diederich* 15799, *E. Sérusiaux* s. n., *D. Van den Broeck* 735.

Cladonia zopfii is known from c. 12 localities in the Campine district in northern Belgium, where it still has vigorous populations in several places. In the Lorraine district, it was reported from Tontelange (Duvigneaud 1940), where it has never been seen since, and from the military domain of Lagland (e.g., Vanek 1976). During the field meeting, we rediscovered a healthy population in a heathland east of the highway.

Lichenopeltella hydrophila R. Sant.

Loc. 10, on *Verrucaria hydrela* in a stream, *P. Diederich* 15784.

This recently described lichenicolous ascomycete was known from Luxembourg (type locality in the Lorraine district, also known from the Ardenne district), and from Sweden (Santesson et al. 2004). It is new for Belgium.

Marchandiomyces aurantiacus (Lasch) Diederich & Etayo

Loc. 1, on *Physcia tenella*, *D. Ertz* 2665 (BR).

This lichenicolous sclerotial basidiomycete was not reported from Belgium by Diederich & Sérusiaux (2000). It has recently been collected in the Lorraine district, together with its teleomorph *Marchandiobasidium aurantiacum* Diederich & Schultheis, which has subsequently been described as new for science (Diederich et al. 2003). This second report from Belgium suggests that the species might be much overlooked and possibly as frequent as in Luxembourg.

Micarea pycnidiophora Coppins & P. James

Loc. 10, on *Fagus*, *P. Diederich* 15788.

A very rare species, previously known from two Belgian localities (Herbeumont and St-Hubert), all in the Ardenne district. In Luxembourg, the species is known from two localities near Berdorf (Lorraine district).

Micarea vulpinaris (Nyl.) Muhr (= *Micarea muhrii* Coppins)

Loc. 11, on pebbles over sand in a heathland, *P. Diederich* 15823.

This is a most unexpected discovery, as the species was known thus far only from a few scattered localities in Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany and Scandinavia (Finland, Norway and Sweden) (Brodo 1995, Palice 1999, Santesson et al. 2004). The identification has been confirmed by B. J. Coppins. The species is new for the area covered by the checklist of Belgium, Luxembourg and northern France (Diederich & Sérusiaux 2000).

Pyrenidium actinellum Nyl. s. lat.

Loc. 10, on *Trapelia* cf. *placodioides*, *P. Diederich* 15777.

Belgium (Ard.): Comm. Butgenbach, Elsenborn, vallée de la Rur, versant droit de la vallée à droite de la route Elsenborn-Kalterherberg (G8.26.11), sol d'une lande à callune, sur *Baeomyces placophyllus*, April 2001, *D. Ertz* (LG).

The genus *Pyrenidium* is currently undergoing a modern revision. As long as the results are not available, it is convenient to treat the material in the classical sense, as *Pyrenidium actinellum* s. lat. The species is new for the area covered by the checklist of Belgium, Luxembourg and northern France (*Diederich & Sérusiaux* 2000).

4. Species list

Table 1 gives a list of the recorded taxa of lichens and lichenicolous fungi during the two field meetings. With the exception of some more recent nomenclatural changes, nomenclature follows *Diederich & Sérusiaux* (2000).

Table 1. List of lichens and lichenicolous fungi recorded during the two field meetings in southern Belgium in 2002 and 2003.

Locality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Agonimia tristicula</i>	x												
<i>Anisomeridium polypori</i>					x		x		x				
<i>Arthonia radicata</i>			x	x	x		x		x				x
<i>Arthonia spadicea</i>		x		x						x			
<i>Arthonia vinosa</i>				x			x			x			x
<i>Arthrorhaphis citrinella</i>										x			
<i>Arthrorhaphis grisea</i> (on <i>B. rufus</i>)			x										
<i>Aspicilia caesiocinerea</i>										x			
<i>Aspicilia calcarea</i>	x												
<i>Aspicilia contorta</i> ssp. <i>contorta</i>	x												x
<i>Aspicilia contorta</i> ssp. <i>hoffmanniana</i>										x			
<i>Athelia arachnoidea</i>		x											
<i>Bacidia biatorina</i>										x			x
<i>Bacidia rubella</i>					x		x						
<i>Bacidina arnoldiana</i> (fertile)				x									
<i>Bacidina delicata</i> (fertile)	x												
<i>Baeomyces rufus</i>			x				x			x	x	x	
<i>Biatoropsis usnearum</i> (on <i>U. ceratina</i>)										x			
<i>Bryoria fuscescens</i>													x
<i>Buellia griseovirens</i>	x	x		x		x	x		x				
<i>Buellia punctata</i>								x	x				
<i>Calicium glaucellum</i>											x		x
<i>Calicium viride</i>													x
<i>Caloplaca chrysodeta</i>	x												
<i>Caloplaca citrina</i>	x												
<i>Caloplaca crenulatella</i>	x							x					
<i>Caloplaca decipiens</i>												x	
<i>Caloplaca flavescens</i>	x												
<i>Caloplaca flavocitrina</i>	x							x		x			
<i>Caloplaca holocarpa</i>													x
<i>Caloplaca lithophila</i>	x							x		x		x	x
<i>Caloplaca obscurella</i>									x				
<i>Caloplaca saxicola</i>	x							x				x	
<i>Caloplaca variabilis</i>	x												
<i>Candelariella aurella</i>	x									x		x	x

<i>Trapelia placodioides</i>	×								×			
<i>Trapeliopsis flexuosa</i>		×							×			×
<i>Trapeliopsis gelatinosa</i>									×			
<i>Trapeliopsis granulosa</i>			×									
<i>Trapeliopsis pseudogranulosa</i>									×			
<i>Tremella lichenicola</i> (on <i>M. fucatus</i>)	×									×		×
<i>Trichonectria hirta</i> (on <i>P. dasaea</i>)			×									
<i>Usnea ceratina</i>					×		×		×			×
<i>Usnea filipendula</i>					×							×
<i>Usnea subfloridana</i>												×
<i>Verrucaria hochstetteri</i>								×				
<i>Verrucaria hydrela</i>									×			
<i>Verrucaria macrostoma</i>								×				
<i>Verrucaria muralis</i>							×		×			
<i>Verrucaria nigrescens</i>	×						×		×		×	×
<i>Verrucaria viridula</i>	×											
<i>Youauxiella lichenicola</i> (on <i>L. chlarotera</i>)									×			
<i>Xanthoria calcicola</i>									×			
<i>Xanthoria elegans</i>	×								×			×
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	×		×			×	×	×	×		×	×
<i>Xanthoria polycarpa</i>	×		×									

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