



A note on *Otidea* (Pezizales, Fungi)

HARRI HARMAJA

Finnish Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 7, FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland. E-mail: harri.harmaja@helsinki.fi

Otidea olivaceobrunnea Harmaja, *nom. nov.*

Otidea olivacea J.Z.Cao & L.Fan in Cao et al. (1990: 735), *nom. illeg.* Type: CHINA: Heilongjiang province: Jiamisi, 22 August 1976, R. F. Jiang *s. n.* (holotype HMAS 36970, not seen).

This name is preempted by *O. olivacea* Bucholtz (1897: 325), a species described from Russia; material has not been seen, but the species most probably belongs to the so-called Helotiales of Leotiomyces.

Otidea bufonia (Pers.) Boudier (1907: 52)

Peziza bufonia Pers. (1822: 225). Type material: France, Vincennes by Paris, 1816, C. H. Persoon *s. n.* (see Harmaja, 2009).

Peziza pseudobadia Cooke (1877: 176); *Aleuria pseudobadia* (Cooke) Gillet (1879: 38); *Geopyxis pseudobadia* (Cooke) Saccardo (1889: 69), *synon. nov.* Type: France, “Merignac” Limminghe *s. n.* (holotype K!).

The material of *Peziza pseudobadia* was studied while on loan from the herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew (K). Only a single specimen was filed under this name. It contains four apothecia. The spores (in Melzer’s reagent) measured c. 13–15 × 6–7 µm, and were fairly fusiform in shape. Striate, brownish encrustation (Korf & Zhuang, 1991; Harmaja, 2009) was observed on excipular hyphae. The encrusted crystals of ectal excipulum (*textura prismatica*) predominantly converted into reddish particles (see Harmaja, 2009). The scant collecting notes, the spore size and the curved paraphyses observed in the specimen match the protologue. The macroscopic appearance of the apothecia in the illustration of the protologue is somewhat deviating. However, the characters of the fungus show that it represents *O. bufonia* as currently in use, and which is also adopted in Harmaja (2009). *Peziza pseudobadia* is thus proven here to be a later synonym of *O. bufonia*.

Otidea formicarum new to Norway

Soon after having collected an *Otidea* unknown to him in 1979, Dr Sigmund Sivertsen (Trondheim, Norway) donated part of that collection to the Helsinki herbarium (H), requesting me to identify the fungus. However, due to several relocations of our mycological collections, the specimen was temporarily displaced until autumn 2009. I have now been able to study the Norwegian collection and it represents a very typical specimen of *O. formicarum* Harmaja (1976: 31): both macroscopical and microscopical characters (studied in Melzer’s reagent) match well, as well as the response of the dried apothecia to ultra-violet light (Harmaja, 1976, 2009). The habitat where the specimen was collected is also typical of the species. This is the first collection known from Norway, and more importantly the first record of *O. formicarum* outside Finland.

Specimen examined: NORWAY: Sør-Trøndelag: Selbu, Tømmervollen, alt. 340 m.