ON TRECHISPORA*

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The correct use of the name *Trechispora* Karsten has been the subject of discussion and controversy for more than twenty years (Rogers, 1944, 1950, 1951; Donk, 1952, 1956, 1957, 1960). In 1890, Karsten erected *Trechispora*, and included within it a single species, *Trechispora onusta* Karst.

In 1941, Bondarzew and Singer accepted the concept of *Trechispora onusta* without any specified typification, in accordance with Donk's proposal that this taxon belonged to *Poria* sect. *Subtilis* Bourd. & Galz., emend. Donk. They also added two species to the genus: *Trechispora candidissima* (Schw.) Bond. & Sing. and *T. trachyspora* (Bourd. & Galz.) Bond. & Sing.

Prior to Donk's proposal, *T. onusta* had been interpreted by Bresadola (1908) and Bourdot & Galzin (1928) as a *Poria* with urniform basidia and smooth spores. Bresadola also reported that in the Karsten collection that he had examined, aculeolate conidia were also present. In 1944, Rogers (cfr. also Rogers, 1950, 1951) lectotypified *T. onusta* by a Karsten collection that had urniform basidia that bore more than four sterigmata and smooth spores. In 1954, however, he discovered a Karsten collection of *T. onusta* in the New York Botanical Garden herbarium, whose collection data were the same as those originally published by Karsten. Examination of the material by Rogers revealed a fungus that not only agrees with Karsten's original description but also is identical with *Poria candidissima* (Schw.) Cooke. This information was reported by Lowe (1956) when he stated: “This species [*T. onusta*] is a synonym of *Poria candidissima* (Schw.) Cooke, according to the LECTOTYPE selected from a Karsten collection at the New York Botanical Garden by D. P. Rogers, a portion of which is now at Helsinki. This collection is the only one known which agrees with the original description, which stated that the spores were echinulate.” Thus, a new lectotype for *T. onusta* was selected to replace the earlier 1944 lectotype.

Donk (1956, 1960) accepted the typification and synonymy proposed by Lowe, and further stated that the name *Trechispora* was therefore not available for the genus to which Rogers (1944) applied it (i.e., urnigerate species with more than four sterigmata and smooth spores). For such urnigerate taxa, Donk (1956), Eriksson (1958), Christiansen (1960), and others have come to use the name *Sistotrema*. The author is in agreement with them on this matter.

In 1957, Donk emended *Cristella* to include, among other taxa, his emended *Poria* sect. *Subtilis* and *Corticium* sect. *Humicola* of Bourdot & Galzin. When *Cristella* was originally erected by Patouillard (1887), he designated only one element (a named species) as the type of his genus. It is indeed unfortunate that this designated element and the material used to describe the genus were not the same fungus. Nevertheless, if Point 1 in the Guide for the Determination of Types (Lanjouw, 1961) is to be complied with, the designated element, *Thelphora cristata* (Pers.) Fr., rather than the described material, *Corticium fastidiosum* Fr., must be considered the nomenclatural type of *Cristella*. Point 1 states that “the choice made by the original author, if definitely expressed at the time of the original publication of the name of the taxon, is final. If he included only one element, that one must always be accepted as the holotype.”

Donk’s (1957) argument for the typification of *Cristella* was that “the name *Cristella* has to be applied in agreement with the fungus on which it was based [*Corticium fastidiosum*] rather than with the type of the specific name wrongly

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applied to the only species \textit{[Thelephora cristata]}].” His statement implies that for the typification of \textit{Cristella}, one is free to make a choice between the only designated element and the material described and illustrated. Strict compliance with Point 1, however, does not allow such a choice. To accept Donk’s argument is to deny the accepted concept that a monotypic genus is typified by the designated type of its only species.

Since \textit{Thelephora cristata} has already been reported by Rogers (1944) and others as being conspecific with \textit{Sebacina incrustans} Tul., the name \textit{Cristella} is impricable. The nomenclaturally correct name, therefore, for those hymenomycetes with ampulcate, nodose-septate hyphae, spores whose walls are usually ornamented, and “normal” homobasidia, is \textit{Trechispora} Karsten.

Although a complete study of all of the species that may belong to \textit{Trechispora} is not presented at this time, several of the better known species are noted below, and a generic description as well as a description of the superseding lectotype are included.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{Trechispora} emend.
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\textit{Trechispora} Karst., Hedwigia 29: 147. 1890.

Fructification resupinate, fragile, loosely adnate; hyphae usually distinct, nodose-septate, with inflations at many septa; basidia short-cylindrical or subclavate, bearing no more than four sterigmata; spores small, hyaline or slightly yellowish, the wall either ornamented or smooth, nonamyloid, the ornamentation in the form of minute spines or warts, or rendering a somewhat star-shaped appearance.

Type species: \textit{Trechispora onusta} Karst., Hedwigia 29: 147. 1890 (= \textit{Trechispora candidissima} (Schw.) Bond. & Sing.; basionym, \textit{Polyporus candidissimus} Schw., Amer. Phil. Soc. Trans. II. 4: 159. 1832).

\textbf{DESCRIPTION OF PORTION OF LECTOTYPE COLLECTION IN NY}

Fructification resupinate, effused, poroid, loosely adnate, soft membranous, near Chamois (11G5) (Maerz & Paul, 1950) in color; pores angular, 3–4 per mm, margin fibrillose to rhizomorphic; subiculum hyphae nodose-septate, 2–3 μ in diam., with swellings up to 5.5 μ in diam., sometimes lightly encrusted; tramal hyphae and subhymenial hyphae nodose-septate, mostly 2–3 μ in diam., basidia short-cylindrical to subclavate, (10-) 11.5–14 (-15) × (4-) 4.5–5.5 (6) μ, bearing four sterigmata 3–4 (-4.5) μ long; spores oval, 3.5–4.5 × (2.5-) 3–3.5 μ, often one-guttulate, the wall slightly thickened, echinulate, nonamyloid.

(Finland, Mustiala, in ligni Salicis capr., Oct., 1886)

The following new combinations are proposed:

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References


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