

## Two new Species of *Petrakia*.

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I feel delighted to be able to write a paper for this Volume published by the Austrian Mycological Society to honour Dr. F. Petrak on his seventieth birthday; indeed, I feel doubly happy in being able to present here two new species of *Petrakia* Sydow, a genus named after Dr. Petrak himself.

*Petrakia* belongs to the *Tuberculariaceae-Phaeodictyae*, and two species are known: *P. echinata* (Pegl.) Sydow (= *Epicoccum echinatum* Pegl.), the type species (Sydow, Ann. mycol., 11: 406, 1913), and *P. deviata* Petrak (apud Watzl, in Beih. bot. Centralbl., Abt. B, 57: 437, 1937). The conidia of *P. echinata* were described as "globosis, ovatis v. ellipsoideis, muriformiter septatis, obscure olivaceo-brunneis, processibus 5—10 rigidis radiantibus hyalinis v. chlorino-hyalinis 16—22  $\mu$  longis, 3—4  $\mu$  crassis, apice obtusis obsitis, ceterum levibus". Petrak's exsiccatum no. 900 (auf *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Mähr.-Weisskirchen, 8. X. 1913, leg. Petrak ex Mus. Bot. Stockholm, Herb. IMI 5842) has conidia 23—33  $\mu$   $\rightleftharpoons$  23—27  $\mu$ . *P. deviata* has conidia 15—27  $\mu$   $\rightleftharpoons$  11—15  $\mu$ , with simple spinous appendages up to about 8  $\mu$  long and 2.5—3  $\mu$  wide, and a persistent one-celled conidiophore 7—12.5  $\mu$   $\rightleftharpoons$  4—6  $\mu$ . The two species described in this paper differ from each other and also from *P. echinata* and *P. deviata*.

### ***Petrakia kambakkamensis* Subramanian sp. nov.**

Colonies dark brown, effuse, irregular in outline, powdery. Conidiophores closely clustered together, arising from a stratum of brownish cells, erect, simple, short, pale brown, cylindrical, septate, thin-walled, 5.6—21.0  $\mu$   $\rightleftharpoons$  3.5—4.9  $\mu$ . Conidia produced acrogenously and singly at the tips of conidiophores, oval to ellipsoid, sometimes subglobose or fusiform, straight, often curved, dark brown, muriform, thick-walled, verrucose to tuberculate, with 1—7 spines, 25—45  $\mu$  long, 16.8—26.6  $\mu$  wide (both excluding spines), often with a persistent conidiophore. Conidial spines arising from cells mostly towards the apex of the conidia, simple, straight, dark, non-septate, thick-walled, 12.6—25.2  $\mu$  long, 3.5—6  $\mu$  wide at the base.

Habit: on dead wood, Kambakkam Hills, Chingleput District, Madras State, India, 26. II. 1956, coll. C. V. S., Herb. MUBL 1555 (type), 1554 and 1557.

Caespituli obscure brunnei, effusi, ambitu irregulares, pulverulenti; conidiophora densiuscule fasciculata, ex hypostromate pseudoparenchymatico, brunneo oriunda, recta, simplicia, breviuscula, pallide brunnea, cylindracea, septata, tenuiter tunicata,  $5.6-21.0 \cong 3.5-4.9 \mu$ ; conidia in apice conidiophorum acrogena, singula, ovoidea vel ellipsoidea, interdum subglobosa vel fusioidea, recta vel saepe plus minusve curvula, obscure brunnea, muriformia, crasse tunicata, verrucosa vel tuberculata, propagulis 1—7 spinuiformibus, praedita,  $25-45 \mu$  longa, absque propagulis  $16.8-26.6 \mu$  lata, non raro conidiophoro adhaerente aucta; propagula e cellulis conidiorum plus minusve apicalibus oriunda, simplicia, recta, obscure brunnea, continua, crasse tunicata,  $12.6-25.2 \mu$  longa, ad basin  $3.5-5.6 \mu$  lata.

**Petrakia cochinchensis** Subramanian sp. nov.

Colonies dark brown, effuse. Conidiophores arising laterally from cells of intricately branched repent hyphae, crowded, erect, short, cylindrical, subhyaline, simple, thin-walled, rarely septate, up to  $12 \mu$  long, up to  $4 \mu$  wide. Conidia produced acrogenously and singly at the tips of conidiophores, of variable shape and size; obconical, ovoid, broad-fusiform, or subglobose, dark brown, muriform, thick-walled,  $37-68 \cong 28-42 \mu$ , smooth but with up to 15 long appendages. Appendages arising from any cell of conidium, but mostly from near the apical part, simple, mostly straight, cylindrical but narrowing above, septate, brown below, paler above, with a blunt rounded subhyaline tip, smooth, up to  $140 \mu$  long,  $4.9-5.6 \mu$  wide at the base,  $3.5-4.2 \mu$  wide at the apex.

Habit: on dead spathe of *Cocos nucifera* L., Ernakulam, Travancore-Cochin State, India, 16. V. 1953, coll. C. V. S., Herb. MUBL 964 (type).

Caespituli obscure brunnei, effusi; conidiophora lateraliter in cellulis hypharum reptantium, intricate ramosorum oriunda, densiuscula, recta, breviuscula, cylindracea, subhyalina, simplicia, tenuiter tunicata, raro septata, usque ad  $12 \mu$  longa, usque ad  $4 \mu$  lata; conidia quoad formam et magnitudinem variabilia, singulatim in apice conidiophorum acrogena, obconica, ovoidea, late fusiformia vel subglobosa, obscure brunnea, muriformia, crasse tunicata,  $37-68 \cong 28-42 \mu$ , laevia sed propagulis nonnullis non plus quam 15 ornata; propagula e cellulis conidiorum plerumque plus minusve apicalium oriunda, simplicia, plerumque recta, cylindracea, apicem versus attenuata, septata, inferne brunnea, superne pallidiora, in apice obtusa et subhyalina, laevia, usque ad  $140 \mu$  longa, ad basin  $4.9-5.6 \mu$ , in apice  $3.5-4.2 \mu$  tantum lata.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Petrak for very kindly translating the diagnoses of the new species into Latin.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Sydowia Beihefte](#)

Jahr/Year: 1956

Band/Volume: [1](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Subramanian C. V.

Artikel/Article: [Two new Species of Petrakia 14-15](#)