

The identity of *Scutula leptogii* (lichenicolous Ascomycota)

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Abstract: DIEDERICH, P. 2007. The identity of *Scutula leptogii* (lichenicolous Ascomycota). – *Herzogia* 20: 317–318.

Original material of the lichenicolous fungus *Scutula leptogii* was studied and found to be an earlier synonym of *Toninia leptogii* Timdal. No nomenclatural changes are needed, however, as a combination of Dughi's name in *Toninia* would result in a later homonym of Timdal's name. Dughi's name is lectotypified.

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Es wurden die Proben des lichenicolen Pilzes *Scutula leptogii* untersucht auf denen die Beschreibung basiert, und als früheres Synonym von *Toninia leptogii* Timdal erkannt. Keine nomenklatorischen Änderungen sind nötig, da eine Kombination von Dughi's Namen in *Toninia* ein späteres Homonym von Timdal's Namen darstellen würde. Dughi's Name wird lectotypifiziert.

Key words: Lichenicolous fungi, nomenclature, taxonomy.

Scutula leptogii Dughi was described as a lichenicolous ascomycete on *Leptogium turgidum* in southern France (DUGHI 1936). It was included in the keys to lichenicolous fungi by CLAUZADE et al. (1989), but no authentic material has ever been traced or re-examined, and no additional specimens have ever been reported. In the framework of our studies on *Llimoniella* species (lichenicolous ascomycetes) (DIEDERICH & ETAYO 2000), the original description of *S. leptogii* let us wonder if this might be a further species of *Llimoniella*. Through the courtesy of Dr Claude Roux, I was able to examine the type specimen of *Scutula leptogii* that is kept in the herbarium of the Musée d'histoire naturelle d'Aix-en-Provence in France (AIX).

The herbarium of Dughi includes one entire box with material named *Leptogium turgidum*. Several specimens are annotated as “*Scutula leptogii*”, and they all appear to have been collected in the same locality (château de Repentance in Aix-en-Provence) and at the same date (October 1935). As none of them has ever been selected as a lectotype, I herewith lectotypify the name on the specimen with the annotation “*Scutula leptogii* sp. nov.” written with black ink (all other specimens only have annotations done by pencil). The other specimens all represent isolectotypes.

A careful macroscopical and microscopical examination of the material leaves no doubt that *Scutula leptogii* is an earlier synonym of *Toninia leptogii* Timdal (TIMDAL 1992). Although Dughi's name is much older than Timdal's name, this does not affect the status of the latter. A new combination of Dughi's name in *Toninia* would be a later homonym of Timdal's name requiring rejection under Art. 53.1. It should be noted that in case of a transfer of the species to another genus, Dughi's name would have priority.

Toninia leptogii Timdal, Opera Botanica 110: 68 (1992 [as 1991]). Type: Italy, Calabria, Cosenza, Valle del Caronte, Ponte Alimiena, on *Leptogium* sp., 13 July 1988, J. C. Hughes & E. Timdal 6803 (O–holotype, non vidi).

Syn. nov.: *Scutula leptogii* Dughi, Revue de Mycologie, Nouvelle série 1: 105 (1936). Type: France, Bouches-du-Rhône, Aix-en-Provence, derrière le château de Repentance, on *Leptogium turgidum*, Oct. 1935, R. Dughi (AIX, specimen annotated “*Scutula leptogii* sp. nov.” with black ink–lectotype, here designated).

The species is known from southern France (Bouches-du-Rhône and Var) and southern Italy (Calabria) on *Collema* and *Leptogium* species (TIMDAL 1992).

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