

Monodictys epilepraria, a lichenicolous fungus new to Slovenia

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Abstract: KUKWA, M. 2008. *Monodictys epilepraria*, a lichenicolous fungus new to Slovenia. – Herzogia 21: 233–234.

The first records, with distributional notes, of the lichenicolous fungus *Monodictys epilepraria* from Slovenia are presented.

Zusammenfassung: KUKWA, M. 2008. *Monodictys epilepraria*, ein für Slowenien neuer lichenicoler Pilz. – Herzogia 21: 233–234.

Der erste Fund des lichenicolen Pilzes *Monodictys epilepraria* aus Slowenien samt einigen Angaben zu seiner Verbreitung werden vorgestellt.

Key words: Mitosporic fungi, biodiversity.

Introduction

The lichen genus *Lepraria* Ach. nom. cons. is rather poor in terms of lichenicolous fungi and only about 15 species have so far been reported as inhabiting their thalli (KUKWA & DIEDERICH 2005). Most of the taxa are represented by non-specific fungi, and only four species are confined to *Lepraria* species, among them the recently described *Monodictys epilepraria* Kukwa & Diederich (KUKWA & DIEDERICH 2005) which has recently been discovered in Slovenia. Details of the first records of this species in Slovenia are provided below.

Monodictys epilepraria Kukwa & Diederich

The whitened and usually strongly damaged thalli of the host taxa provide evidence that *Monodictys epilepraria* is present. Using a hand lens, small blackish dots of conidia can be observed; however, confirmation under microscope is always required.

When first described, *Monodictys epilepraria* was known only from the Czech Republic, Great Britain, Lithuania, Poland, Spain and Sweden (KUKWA & DIEDERICH 2005). Subsequently, it was reported from Austria (HAFELLNER & OBERMAYER 2007) and Estonia (SUIJA et al. 2006). Here it is reported for the first time from Slovenia. The species is possibly overlooked and therefore is probably more frequent and widespread in Europe. The records presented here extend its known range, being the most southerly for this part of Europe.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. Slovenia, Pohorje, Šumik, track above Lobnica creek to Veliky Šumik, c. 1000–1020 m, 46°28'55–57"N/15°27'18–27"E, on *Lepraria* spp. (partly on *L. elobata*, *L. cf. jackii* or *L. rigidula*, but also on some other hosts, but as their thalli are damaged, it is not possible to determine them) growing on rowan and bark of stump,

29.05.2006, M. Kukwa 5150 & 5151, H. Mayrhofer & Ch. Scheuer (UGDA-L-13387 & 13388, dupl. in GZU); waterfall Veliky Šumik along the Lobnica creek, c. 960–980 m, 46°29'00"N/15°27'31"E, on *L. elobata* and *L. sp.* (the thalli are damaged and fragmented, thus determination is not possible) on bark of stump, 29.05.2006, M. Kukwa 5161, H. Mayrhofer & Ch. Scheuer (UGDA-L-13398).

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