

***Pertusaria aspergilla*, the correct name for *P. dealbata* auct. (lichenized Ascomycotina: Pertusariales)**

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Summary

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Pertusaria aspergilla (Achar.) Laundon, comb. nov., replaces *P. dealbata* auct., non (Achar.) Crombie, and *P. dealbescens* auct., non Erichsen, a superfluous name.

The sterile saxicolous lichen known as *Pertusaria dealbata* (e.g. by Dibben, 1980: 54) is distinguished by its granular soredia which react C – , K + yellowish becoming brownish, and PD + red in standard lichen colour tests. The positive reaction with paraphenylenediamine (PD) is due to the presence of fumarprotocetraric acid; see Hanko (1983: 175-180) for an account of the chemistry. This lichen has been called *P. dealbata* (Achar.) Crombie (1870: 59) in the past but this is wrong because the type material of the basionym *Lichen dealbatus* Acharius (1799: 29), namely Herb. Acharius 1743B (H), unfortunately unavailable for loan, contains thamnolic acid and belongs to *Pertusaria corallina* (L.) F. Arnold (Vitikainen, in litt.), a well-known lichen. There is also an authentic specimen of *Lichen dealbatus* sent by Acharius in 1801 to J. E. Smith (Herb. Smith 1697.6, LINN!); it has both apothecia and isidia and is K + yellow becoming brownish-orange, indicating that it too belongs to *Pertusaria corallina*.

The name *Pertusaria dealbescens* was introduced by Erichsen (1936: 638) for the species known as *P. dealbata* because of the confusion between it and *P. corallina*. However, it was based on *Lichen dealbatus* Achar., which was cited in the synonymy. Therefore it is an illegitimate, superfluous name, under Art. 63.1, for *Pertusaria dealbata* (Achar.) Crombie, and belongs in the synonymy of *P. corallina* (L.) F. Arnold (1861: 658), the basionym of which is *Lichen corallinus* Linnaeus (1767: 131).

Studies of Acharius's material show that *Lichen aspergillus* is the oldest name for the species in question, which should therefore be called *Pertusaria aspergilla*, as given below. Further authentic material of *Variolaria aspergilla* occurs in Herb. Acharius 356 (BM!) and in Herb. Dawson Turner (BM ex K!). In the Acharius herbarium at Helsinki (Herb. Acharius 905, H) there are four specimens of *L. aspergillus*, three of which belong to the species previously known as *P. dealbata* (Vitikainen, in litt.); specimens from H-ACH are not available for loan so this material has not been studied personally. *Variolaria orcina* has been found to be a synonym and is lectotypified below; an additional authentic specimen of *V. orcina* ["*oreina*"] occurs in Herb. Acharius 359b (BM!).

Lichen aspergillus was published in 1799 and not 1798 as hitherto assumed, because Swartz's correspondence shows that the book *Lichenographiae svecicae prodromus* by Acharius was issued between May and July 1799 (Tibell, 1987: 258), and not in 1798 as given on the title-page.

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The nomenclature of the species is as follows:

Pertusaria aspergilla* (Achar.) Laundon, **comb. nov.*

- ≡ *Lichen aspergillus* Achar., Lichenogr. Svec. Prodr.: 28. 1799 ["1798"]. – LT. (here designated): Sweden, on rocks, *Acharius* (Herb. Smith 1691.6, LINN!), sent by Acharius in 1801 [TLC: fumarprotocetraric acid and succinprotocetraric acid]).
- ≡ *Variolaria aspergilla* (Achar.) Achar., Methodus: 13. 1803.
- ≡ *Variolaria communis* f. *aspergilla* (Achar.) Achar., Syn. Meth. Lich.: 131. 1814.
- ≡ *Variolaria communis* var. *aspergilla* (Achar.) Gray, Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. 1: 491. 1821.
- ≡ *Zeora sordida* f. *aspergilla* (Achar.) Körber, Syst. Lich. Germ.: 134. 1854.
- ≡ *Lecanora sordida* f. *aspergilla* (Achar.) Rabenh., Krypt.-Fl. Sachsen 2(2): 215. 1870.
- ≡ *Pertusaria velata* f. *aspergilla* (Achar.) Crombie in Grevillea 19: 59. 1891.
- = *Variolaria orcina* Achar., Methodus Suppl.: 6. 1803. – LT. (here designated): unlocalized, on rock, *Acharius* (Herb. Acharius 913, H!) [TLC: fumarprotocetraric acid only]).
- ≡ *Variolaria corallina* var. *orcina* ["*oreina*"] (Achar.) Achar. in Kongl. Vetensk. Acad. Nya Handl. 30: 161. 1809.
- ≡ *Variolaria corallina* f. *orcina* ["*oreina*"] (Achar.) Achar., Syn. Meth. Lich.: 133. 1814.
- *Pertusaria dealbata* auct., non (Achar.) Crombie.
- *Pertusaria dealbescens* auct., non Erichsen in Rabenh., Krypt.-Fl. Deutschl., ed. 2, 9(5,1): 638. 1936, nom. illeg. (Art. 63.1).

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