SHORT COMMUNICATION

Obscuroplaca gen. nov. – a replacement name for Phaeoplaca; Teloschistaceae (lichenized Ascomycota) from the Galapagos Islands

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Abstract. A replacement name Obscuroplaca for the illegitimate genus Phaeoplaca is introduced. The three known species are transferred as Obscuroplaca camptidia, O. ochrolechioides, and O. tortuca.

Key words: Caloplacoideae, Chrysophyceae, Golden Algae

Introduction

We recently introduced the name Phaeoplaca Søchting et al., as a new genus in Teloschistaceae (Bungartz et al. 2020). At the time of publication, we were not aware that Chodat et al. (1926) had first proposed an identical name for a genus of freshwater algae in the Chrysophyceae Pascher. The International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Turland et al. 2018) applies to fungi and algae. The name of each taxonomic group governed by the code has to be unique. Therefore, the name Phaeoplaca is an illegitimate later homonym of Chodat’s name.

To remedy the situation, we introduce Obscuroplaca as a replacement name here.

Obscuroplaca Søchting, Arup & Bungartz, nom. nov.
MycoBank MB 841162


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Type: Obscuroplaca camptidia (Tuck.) Søchting et al. (syn. Lecanora camptidia Tuck.).

Etymology: This replacement name is a combination of the syllables ‘-placa’ hinting at Caloplaca (from which species in the genus were transferred), and the Latin ‘-obscuro’ meaning ‘dark’, referring to the overall dull color of thallus and apothecia, both lacking the typically bright anthraquinones of most other members of the Teloschistaceae.

The following three species were previously included in the genus and are all transferred here into Obscuroplaca.

Obscuroplaca camptidia (Tuck.) Søchting, Arup & Bungartz, comb. nov.
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Obscuroplaca ochrolechioides (S.Y. Kondr. & Kärnefelt) Søchting & Bungartz, comb. nov.
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Obscuroplaca tortuca (Søchting & Bungartz) Søchting & Bungartz, comb. nov.

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Acknowledgements

We are indebted to James K. Mitchell at Harvard University for notifying us that the name Phaeoplaca had previously been published by Chodat, alerting us to the necessity to propose a replacement name. We also appreciate the support of Konstanze Bensch, Mycobank, in providing guidance to register Obscuroplaca as a replacement name. Robert Lücking and an anonymous reviewer provided constructive criticism on how to improve this short manuscript, which we greatly appreciate. And we are indebted to Adam Flakus and Jolanta Miadlikowska, editors of this journal, for facilitating this publication as a short communication. This publication is contribution number 2416 of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands.

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