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***Dendrophlebia* (Agaricomycetes), a new corticioid genus from India**

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KEY WORDS – Eastern Himalaya, Bomdila, angiosperm host

While conducting a fungal foray in Bomdila in West Kameng of Arunachal Pradesh, India, Dhingra made a collection from a decaying angiospermous stump. On the basis of macroscopic and microscopic characters it was compared to similar genera within *Corticiaceae* s.l. (Rattan, 1977, Eriksson et al. 1981, Hjortstam et al. 1987, Dhingra 2005) but could not be assigned to any already known, hence the description of a new genus.

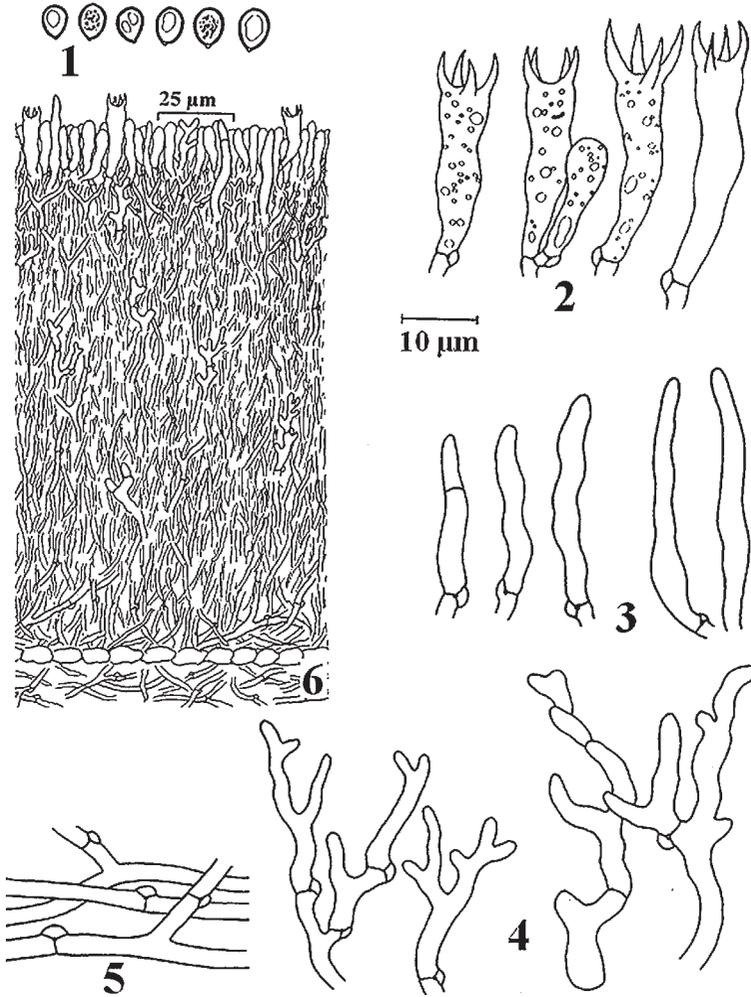
***Dendrophlebia* Dhingra & Priyanka, gen. nov.**

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*Basidiocarpum resupinatum, adnatum, effusum, ceraceum; hymenium laevigatum, continuum, flavum ad subfuscum, vinaceum in 3% KOH; systema hyphale monomiticum; hyphae generativae, fibulatae; dendrophysis adsunt; cystidia hyphoidae, tenuitunicata; basidia clavata, 4-sterigmatibus; basidiosporae ellipsoideae, leves, crassitunicatae, inamyloideae, acyanophileae.*

TYPE SPECIES: *Dendrophlebia crassispora* Dhingra & PriyankaETYMOLOGY: The name of the genus is based on the presence of dendrohyphidia in addition to the characters of the genus *Phlebia*.

Basidiocarp resupinate, closely adnate, effused, ceraceous; hymenial surface smooth, continuous, yellowish to brownish, turning dark-ruby on putting a drop of 3% KOH solution; margins not differentiated. Hyphal system monomitic; generative hyphae branched, septate, clamped; hyphae often agglutinated, penetrating deep into the substratum, covered by some yellowish-brown



Figs 1–6. *Dendrophlebia crassispora*: microscopic structures.

1. basidiospores; 2. basidia; 3. cystidia; 4. dendrohyphidia; 5. generative hyphae; 6. vertical section through basidiocarp.

crystalline matter. Dendrohyphidia present. Cystidia thin-walled, hyphoid. Basidia clavate to subclavate, 4-sterigmate, with a basal clamp. Basidiospores ellipsoid, smooth, with thickened walls, inamyloid, acyanophilous.

REMARKS—*Dendrophlebia* resembles genus *Phlebia* in having a compact texture, clavate basidia, clamped generative hyphae, and 4-sterigmate basidia.

However, the presence of dendrohyphidia and basidiospores with distinctly thickened walls distinguish this genus from *Phlebia*. The colour change to red after addition of KOH is also found in some *Phlebia* species, as well as among representatives of other genera. A sample was sent to Prof. Nils Hallenberg, who also supported the concept of the new genus.



FIG. 7. *Dendrophlebia crassispora*: basidiocarp showing hymenial surface.

***Dendrophlebia crassispora* Dhingra & Priyanka, sp. nov.**

FIGS 1–7

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*Basidiocarpum resupinatum, adnatum, effusum, ceraceum, ad 0.7 mm crassum; hymenium laevigatum, continuum, maydi-flavum ad ranunculinum, in sicco subfuscum vinaceum ad purpureum in 3% KOH; margine indeterminato; systema hyphale monomiticum; hyphae generatoriae ad 2.5  $\mu$ m latae, fibulatae; dendrophysis irregulariter ramosae, tenuitunicatae, in contexto et in hymenio adsunt; cystidia 22.5–35  $\times$  3–4  $\mu$ m, hyphoidae, sinuosa, tenuitunicata; basidia 20–32.5  $\times$  5–6.5  $\mu$ m, clavata ad subclavata, vel sinuosa, 4-sterigmatibus; basidiosporae 4.5–5.5  $\times$  3–4  $\mu$ m, ellipsoides ad late ellipsoides vel ovatae, leves, crassitunicatae, inamyloides, acyanophiles, multiguttatae.*

TYPE: India, Arunachal Pradesh: West Kameng, Bombila, on a decaying angiospermous stump, Dhingra 19726 (PAN, holotype), August 26, 1981.

ETYMOLOGY: The epithet refers to the thick-walled spores.

Basidiocarp resupinate, closely adnate, effused, up to 0.7 mm thick in section, ceraceous; hymenial surface smooth, continuous, butter-yellow to corn-yellow or buttercup yellow, somewhat darkening on drying, turning dark-ruby on putting a drop of 3% KOH solution; margins not differentiated. Hyphal system monomitic; generative hyphae up to 2.5  $\mu$ m wide, branched, septate, clamped; basal zone and subhymenium not differentiated from each other composed of compactly packed to agglutinated hyphae and dendrohyphidia, covered by yellowish-brown crystalline matter, hyphae penetrate deep into the substrate. Dendrohyphidia richly and irregularly branched, thin-walled, present both in context and hymenium. Cystidia 22.5–35  $\times$  3–4  $\mu$ m, hyphoid

to somewhat subulate, often sinuous, thin-walled, with a basal clamp, negative to sulphovanillin. Basidia  $20\text{--}32.5 \times 5\text{--}6.5 \mu\text{m}$ , clavate to subclavate, often constricted or somewhat sinuous, 4-sterigmate, with a basal clamp; sterigmata up to  $10 \mu\text{m}$  long. Basidiospores  $4.5\text{--}5.5 \times 3\text{--}4 \mu\text{m}$ , ellipsoid to broadly ellipsoid or ovate, tapering towards the base, smooth, somewhat thick-walled, inamyloid, acyanophilous, with one to many oil drops.

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