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THE POLYPORACEAE OF FAYETTE, IOWA.

BY GUY WEST WILSON.

The *Polyporaceae* are a group of most interesting fungi which have of recent years assumed a position of prime economic importance as it has been demonstrated that many of them cause the decay of timber trees which formerly they were supposed to follow. The parasitic nature of these fungi has added a new incentive to their careful study. Some species are found only on the diseased portion of living trees, while others appear to inhabit only dead timber. Of these it is not improbable that a considerable number may be able to infect living timber and later to maintain themselves on the wood as long as those portions remain which furnish them with their food.

The present paper embodies the field observations upon species of this family in the vicinity of Fayette. Whilst the list can lay no claim to be other than a preliminary paper, several species are recorded as parasites which are not so indicated by Dr. Murrill in his monograph of the family,* while others are of interest because of the extension of their range. The majority of the species have been sent to Dr. Murrill for verification. The nomenclature of his monograph, which is the only comprehensive treatment of the American species, has been followed and such synonyms added as were necessary to correlate the list with other publications on Iowa *Polyporaceae*.

1. *HYDNUM CINNAMOMEUM* (Schw.) Murrill. (*Irpeex cinnamomeus* Fries.)
 This species, which at maturity has the appearance of a resupinate *Hydnum*, is very common on various oaks. If the tree is still upright the entire surface may be covered, but on fallen branches only the lower portion is affected, giving quite a varied appearance to the fungus.

2. *FIMITIPORIA OBLIQUEFORMIS* Murrill.
 The present species was described from material collected on hard wood logs near Cincinnati, Ohio, and is also recorded from Pennsylvania. In our territory it occurs both as a parasite and a saprophyte. It has been collected several times from wounds on oak and Mr. Learn has found it on *Populus grandidentata* in the northern portion of the county.

3. *IRPEOPORUS LACTEUS* (Fries) Murrill. (*Irpeex Pulvipiferae* (Schw.) Fries.)
 Common on dead and living wood of various species. While usually considered a saprophyte this species is a true parasite on various species of wild and cultivated *Prunaceae*. Several cherry orchards in the vicinity and numerous examples of the wild cherry have been noted as having succumbed to the ravages of this species. One orchard in particular was noted which has been almost depleted by the present species in company with *Cobriolus prolificans*

*N. Am. Flora, Vol. pts. 1 and 2.

and *Hapalopilus gilvus*. The additional hosts noted locally are *Rhus glabra*, *Populus grandidentata* and various oaks.

4. PORONIDULUS CONCHIFER (Schw.) Murrill. (*Polyporus conchifer* Schw., *Polystictus conchifer* Schw.)

Common on fallen twigs of the elm. (*Ulmus americana*).

5. CORIOLUS VERSICOLOR (L.) Quel. (*Polyporus versicolor* (L.) Fries), *Polystictus versicolor* (Fries.)

This beautiful species is common on almost all our forest trees and shrubs. It is one of our worst forest pests and often invades the orchard and ornamental plantations. It causes a serious disease of the lilac and affects the wild grape.

6. CORIOLUS NOGROMARGINATUS (Schw.) Murrill. (*Polyporus hirsutus* Fries, *Polystictus pergamius* Fries.)

Common and variable, on numerous species of dead wood.

7. CORIOLUS PROLIFICANS (Fries) Murrill. (*Polyporus pergamenus* Fries, *Polystictus pergaminus* Fries.)

Very common both as a parasite and saprophyte on *Quercus*, *Betula*, *Populus*, and less frequently on other trees.

8. CORIOLELLUS SEPIUM (Berk.) Murrill. (*Trametes sepium* Berk.)

Not common, on dead oak both in the forest and in structural work.

9. TYROMYCES SEMIPELIATUS (Peck) Murrill. (*Polyporus semipeliatus* Peck.)

Rare on *Salix*, upon which it is a wound parasite, gaining entrance through dead branches.

10. SPONGIPELLIS UNICOLOR (Schw.) Murrill. (*Polyporus obtusus* Berk.)

This handsome species is not uncommon on oak saplings throughout the county. It is a wound parasite.

11. SPONGIPELLIS OCCIDENTALIS Murrill.

This species, originally described from specimens collected on beech (*Fagus*), has been previously reported only from New York. A fine specimen was found on a wound of a trunk of *Ulmus americana* in Fayette. The species is quite distinct from the preceding, which it resembles in being a wound parasite. The denser pelius, smaller pores, and the brittleness of the later upon drying easily separate it from the former species.

12. BJERKANDERA ADUSTA (Willd.) Karst. (*Polyporus adustus* Fries.)

A common and variable species which may be either a true parasite or a saprophyte. The light colored, imbricate pelius and smoke colored hymenium easily separate this species. I have found it on erect trunks grading into a pseudo resupinate form which at first would never be taken for this species. Common on oak, basswood, birch, etc.

13. BJERKANDERA FUMOSA (Pers.) Karst. (*Polyporus fumosus* Fries.)

Much larger and with a lighter colored hymenium than the preceding species. A single collection was made near Fayette on an old elm log.

14. HEXAGONIA ALVEOLARIS (DC.) Murrill. (*Favolus europeaeus* Fries.)

Very common on fallen branches and dead twigs of various trees.

15. POLYPORUS ARCULARIUS (Batch) Fries.

Common on fallen twigs, buried roots, and stumps of deciduous trees. The species is quite variable, although easily recognized by the alveolar pores, ciliated margin and palid pelius, a combination of characters unique among the northern species of the genus.

16. *Polyporus fissus* Berk.

A very large and conspicuous species which has been collected but once in the vicinity of Fayette. The specimens were growing on a badly decayed log, probably elm.

17. *GRIEOLA FRONDOSA* (Dicks.) S. F. Gray. (*Polyporus frondosus* Fries).

A very beautiful species which has been collected once in humis at the base of an oak, near Fayette.

18. *PYCNOPORUS CINNABARINUS* (Jacq.) Karst. (*Trametes cinnabarina* Fries, *Polystictus cinnabarinus* Fries).

A very conspicuous species easily recognized by its bright color. Fairly abundant on fallen wild cherry.

19. *LAETIPORUS SPECIOSUS* (Batt.) Murrill. (*Polyporus sulphureus* Fries, *P. cincinnatus* Morgan).

Quite common on various living and dead trees, especially oak, ash, and wild cherry. This is the only edible species of the family, at least in so far as local flora is concerned.

20. *FUNALIA STUPPEA* (Berk.) Murrill. (*Trametes Pecku* Klachb).

A very distinct species, easily recognized by its hirsute pileus and large very irregular pores. Not uncommon on poplar.

21. *HAPALOPILUS GILVUS* (Schw.) Murrill. (*Polyporus gilvus* Schw).

A very common and rather constant species which is easily recognized by its firm sporophore which is of a yellowish or brownish tint. The individual sporophores are either scattered or imbricate and are produced in great abundance, much to the injury of our forests. The worst sufferer from its deprivations is the oak. Various other trees are infected to a certain extent, among these being the cultivated cherry.

22. *ISCHNODERMA FULGINOSUS* (Scop.) Murrill. (*Polyporus resinosus* Fries).

Common on dead wood, especially of the linden and red maple.

23. *FOMES ROSEUS* (Alb. & Schw.) Cooke.

On structural pine, Clermont, (C. D. Learn.) The rose colored sporophore easily distinguishes this from our other species.

24. *FOMES FRAXINEUS* (Bull.) Cooke.

Not common on *Fraxinus*. Collected at Clermont and Fayette by C. D. Learn.

25. *FOMES OHIENSIS* (Berk.) Murrill. (*Trametes ohioensis* Berk).

Rare on oak posts.

26. *FOMES POPULINUS* (Schum.) Cooke.

This species does not appear to be very common as it has been collected only two or three times. It is parasitic on *Acer saccharinum* and *A. saccharum*.

27. *PYROPOLYPORUS IGNARIUS* (L.) Murrill. (*Fomes ignarius* Gill., *F. nigricans* Gill).

This is one of our commonest and most variable species of pasitic polypores. It causes no end of damage to certain of our forest trees. Two forms are recognizable; the first, or typical form, has the hymenium brown, the surface less rimose than in the second, and is more broadly shelving in habit; the other form being narrower and more nearly hoof-shaped, with a bluish hymenium. This is *Fomes nigricans*, which upon first acquaintance appears distinct enough to warrant its recognition as a distinct species. A collection made by

Mr. Learn near Clermont makes this treatment of the forms impossible as the habit is that of *F. nigricans*; but with the brown hymenium of the typical form. At most these can be ranked only as varieties. The typical form is a wound parasite on *Juglans cinerea* and *Ostrya virginica*, while the other form is confined to *Populus*.

28. PYROPOLYPORUS FULVUS (Scop.) Murrill. (*Fomes fulvus* Gill).

Very common on the wild plum, destroying entire thickets, and sparingly on cultivated plums of American and European varieties.

29. PYROPOLYPORUS EVERHARTII (Ellis & Gall.) Burrill. (*Mucorniporus Everhartii* Ellis & Gall., *Fomes rimosus* and *F. ignarius* Aut. p. p.)

This is a very common parasitic species, often reaching a large size. It is parasitic on various species of *Quercus*.

30. PYROPOLYPORUS CONCHATUS (Pers.) Murrill.

Very common about Fayette. This is a very variable species, either peliote or resupinate, and in peliote forms often moss covered. The velvety fawn or light brown margin is quite characteristic. Very common as a parasite on *Crataegus*, wild grape, ash, and as a saprophyte upon various species of deciduous wood.

31. ELFVINGIA FOMENTARIA (L.) Murrill. (*Fomes fomentarius* Gill).

A specimen from *Betula papyrifera* is in the collection of Upper Iowa University.

32. ELFVINGIA LOBATA (Schw.) Murrill. (*Fomes reniformis* Morgan).

Not rare on dead deciduous wood. This species is an annual, the pelei becoming imbricate. It is easily distinguished from the following by this character and its smaller size.

33. ELFVINGIA MEGALOMA (Lev.) Murrill. (*Fomes applanatus* of American authors).

Very common both as a parasitic and saprophyte on various deciduous trees.

34. CERRENA UNICOLOR (Bull.) Murrill. (*Daedalea unicolor* Fries).

A very common saprophyte on various species of deciduous wood. It is easily mistaken for a *Coriolus* from which it differs in the daedaleoid pores.

35. DAEDALEA CONFRAGOSA (Bolt.) Pers.

Very common both as a parasite and saprophyte on *Salix* and *Crataegus*.

36. LENZITES BETULINS (L.) Fries.

Very common on oak and rare on birch.

37. LENZITES ODORA "Aut."

A poorly understood species of uncertain affinities. Common on railroad ties and structural timber.

38. GLEOPHYLLUM TRABEUM (Pers.) Murrill.

Common on fallen timber.