

ACTA MYCOLOGICA
Vol. 41 (1): 113-124
2006

*Dedicated to Professor Alina Skirgiello
on the occasion of her ninety fifth birthday*

Natural substrata for corticioid fungi

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Yurchenko E.O.: *Natural substrata for corticioid fungi*. Acta Mycol. 42 (1): 113-124, 2006.

The paper reviews the types of substrata inhabited by non poroid resupinate Homobasidiomycetes *in situ* in global scale with both examples from literature sources and from observations on Belarus corticioid fungi biota. The groups of organic world colonized by corticioid basidiomata and vegetative mycelium are arboreous, semi arboreous, and herbaceous vascular plants, Bryophyta, epiphytic coccoid algae, lichenized and non lichenized fungi, and occasionally myxomycetes and invertebrates. The fungi occur on living, dying, and dead on all decay stages parts of organisms. Besides, the fungi are known on soil, humus, stones, artificial inorganic and synthetic materials and dung.

Key words: Bryophyta, *Corticaceae*, herbs, lichens, litter, woody plants

INTRODUCTION

Corticioid fungi (Homobasidiomycetes) is an artificial union of life forms, the assembling of which is based mostly on basidioma morphological organization similarity. Our definition of corticioid basidiomata *sensu lato* includes the types of fructifications ranged from totally resupinate to effuse-reflexed with rather wide effused part in most cases, and from loose arachnoid to crustose and membranaceous in consistency; the hymenophore shape varies from smooth to almost poroid (reticulate or irpicoid) and long-toothed. Some mycologists still use for them rather convenient name *Corticaceae* s. l. According to the recent molecular phylogeny-based systems the species of corticioid fungi are distributed among the orders Agaricales, Boletales, Cantharellales, Ceratobasidiales, Hymenochaetales, Phallales, Polyporales, Russulales, Stereales, Thelephorales (Kirk et al. 2001) or between athelioid, bolete, cantharelloid, corticioid, euagarics, *Gloeophyllum*, gomphoid-phalloid, hymenochaetoid, polyporoid, russuloid, thelephoroid, and trechisporoid clades *sensu* Binder et al. (2005).

Corticioid fungi are a very significant group of wood decay organisms. The type of nutrition for no less than 80% of species is lignin degradation that means ultimately the transformation of dead wood into humus substances, and ca 5% of species cause

cellulose decay. Besides, there are mycorrhiza-forming species and a part of species which are able to decay different soft plant debris in litter. The facts of *Corticaceae* s. l. growth on non-wood substrata were documented by different authors, but still the data are strongly dispersed.

The term **substratum** according to Hawksworth et al. (1995: 445) means ‘the material on which an organism is growing or to which it is attached’. In the first case we tell about nutritive substratum, in the second – about attachment substratum. Since fungal thallus contacts with great number of different particles we use the term in more strict sense – the body to which the fungus attach by its **basidioma basal part** or vegetative mycelium, or in which fungal hyphae **penetrate**. Thus the cases of mechanical embracing of outer particles by upper layers of big fruitbodies are excluded (for example, we observed the embracing of living *Fragaria vesca* L. tendrils by growing *Chondrostereum purpureum* (Pers.) Pouzar, MSK 6519).

Different substrata for *Corticaceae* s. l. *in situ* are discussed in sections below.

The specimens examined are kept in V.F. Kuprevich Institute of Experimental Botany Herbarium, section “Fungi” (MSK-F).

Photographs were made by Olympus Camedia C-5060 digital camera via Olympus SZ61 stereomicroscope and Olympus BX51 microscope; and also by Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera directly or via Nikon Eclipse E200 microscope with objective magnification 4×. Microscopic preparations for passing light were made in 5% KOH solution.

The correct names of fungi collected in Belarus follow CORTBASE vers. 2 (Parmasto et al. 2004) and Kõljalg (1996); in referring to publications the original names are cited, with the orthography checked via CORTBASE.

VASCULAR PLANTS

Corticaceae s. l. are known on all kinds of woody plants – angiosperms, gymnosperms, and arboreous ferns (*Tubulicium vermiculare* (Wakef.) Boidin & Gilles and *T. dussii* (Pat.) Oberw. fide Domański 1992). Main substrata are tree trunks and branches. Rather big number of species occur regularly or occasionally on processed or man-transformed wood (timbers, fences, woodwork, chips), but commonly exposed to open air. For instance, Aandstad and Ryvar den (1987) listed 82 species on wood fences in Norway. The number of species growing indoor is much less – e.g. Bondartsev (1948) reported 9 house fungi collected in big city.

A number of species are known from small shrubs – *Arctostaphylos*, *Chamaecytisus*, *Cistus*, *Duschekia*, *Erica*, *Genista*, *Ledum*, *Pentaphylloides*, *Sarothamnus*, *Thymus* (including strictly specialized *Coronicium thymicola* (Bourdot & Galzin) Jülich), *Vaccinium* (e.g. two species described only from this genus – *Laeticorticium efibulatum* M.J. Larsen & Nakasone and *Peniophora sphaerocystidiata* Burds. & Nakasone), and woody lianas, like *Actinidia* and *Vitis* (Jülich 1984; Domański 1988, 1991, 1992; Kõljalg 1996). Among small shrubs rather rich species collection is reported on *Calluna* stems and twigs: *Acanthobasidium norvegicum* (J. Erikss. & Ryvar den) Boidin, *Acanthophysium apricans* (Bourdot) G. Cunn., *Corticium macrosporopsis* Jülich, *Hyphodontia hastata* (Litsch.) J. Erikss., *Phanerochaete ericina* (Bourdot) J. Erikss. & Ryvar den, *Ph. martelliana* (Bres.) J. Erikss. & Ryvar den, *Sistotrema dennisii* Malençon – on living stem bases, *Stereum rameale* (Pers.) Fr., *Trechispora*

praeformata (Bourdot & Galzin) Libert (Domański 1988, 1991, 1992). *Peniophora halimi* Boidin & Lanquetin and *Radulomyces rickii* (Bres.) M.P. Christ. inhabit stems of shrubby halophyte *Atriplex halimus* L. (Domański 1991). Among our collections there are *Amphinema byssoides* (Pers.) J. Erikss. (MSK 5730), *Piloderma fallax* (Liberta) Stalpers (MSK 6098), and *Tomentella terrestis* (Berk. & Broome) M.J. Larsen (MSK 6299) on living and dead *Vaccinium myrtillus* L. stems, immersed in litter.

Some species also occur on semi-arboreous plants, i.e. those with every year dying younger sprouts. On *Rubus idaeus* L. and *R. nessensis* W. Hall dead stems we collected in Belarus *Ceratobasidium cornigerum* (Bourdot) D.P. Rogers, *Peniophora cinerea* (Pers.) Cooke, *P. incarnata* (Pers.) P. Karst., *Phanerochaete sanguinea* (Fr.) Pouzar, *Phlebiella sulphurea* (Pers.) Ginns & Lefebvre, *Radulomyces confluens* (Fr.) M.P. Christ., and *Tomentella* spp. Other saprobic species known on *Rubus* are *Acanthobasidium norvegicum*, *Corticium macrosporopsis* Jülich, *Peniophora meridionalis* Boidin, *Phanerochaete tuberculata* (P. Karst.) Parmasto, *Sistotrema pteriphilum* K.H. Larss. & Hjortstam, *Tomentella coerulea* (Bres.) Höhn. & Litsch., and *T. ellisii* (Sacc.) Jülich & Stalpers (Domański 1988, 1991, 1992; Kōlja lg 1996). *Litschauerella clematidis* (Bourdot & Galzin) J. Erikss. & Ryvarde, *Peniophora pseudoversicolor* Boidin, and *Radulomyces rickii* were published from *Clematis* (Domański 1991). Partly lignified *Arundinaria* and *Sasa* serve as hosts for *Acanthobasidium phragmitis* Boidin & al., *Cyphellathelia pezizoidea* (Ellis & Everh.) Jülich, and *Tomentella sublilacina* (Ellis & Holw.) Wakef. (Domański 1988; Kōlja lg 1996).

Several corticioid fungi are known from succulent perennial plants, e.g. *Athelia decipiens* (Höhn. & Litsch.) J. Erikss., *Hyphoderma fouquieriae* Nakasone & Gilb., *Peniophora tamaricicola* Boidin & Malençon, *Phanerochaete omnivorum* (Shear.) Burds. & Nakasone, *Ph. tuberculata* on cacti *Carnegiea* and *Opuntia*, *Crustoderma opuntiae* Nakasone & Gilb. and *Uncobasidium calongei* (Tellería) Hjortstam & Tellería described only from *Opuntia*, and *Laetisaria agaves* Burds. & Gilb. on *Agave* leaves (Nakasone, Gilbertson 1978; Domański 1988, 1992).

The degree of specialization to vascular hosts varies for corticioid fungi species in wide limits. In Belarus only eleven species are still found to be strictly specialized to single plant and regularly recorded on it: *Amylostereum laevigatum* (Fr.) Boidin (on *Juniperus communis* L.), *Corticium quercicola* Jülich (on *Quercus robur* L.), *Merulioopsis taxicola* (Pers.) Bondartsev (on *Pinus sylvestris* L.), *Peniophora laeta* (Fr.) Donk (on *Carpinus betulus* L.), *P. limitata* (Chaillat.) Cooke (on *Fraxinus excelsior* L.), *P. pini* (Schleich. & DC.) Boidin (on *Pinus sylvestris*), *P. polygonia* (Pers.) Bourdot & Galzin (on *Populus tremula* L.), *P. rufomarginata* (Pers.) Litsch. (on *Tilia cordata* Mill.), *Phlebiella pseudotsugae* (Burt) K.H. Larss. & Hjortstam (on *Pinus sylvestris*), *Punctularia strigosozonata* (Schwein.) P.H.B. Talbot (on *Populus tremula*), *Sistotremastrum suecicum* Litsch. (on *Pinus sylvestris*). It shows uneven distribution of highly specialized fungi over the genera, with big per cent among *Peniophora* species. Several species are genera-specialized, e.g. *Peniophora erikssonii* Boidin recorded on *Alnus glutinosa* (L.) Gaertn. and *A. incana* (L.) Moench, and *Vuilleminia alni* Boidin, Lanquetin & Gilles on the same two hosts. Concerning *Peniophora pini* mentioned above, outside of Belarus it was collected on other *Pinus* species; we examined specimens from *P. kochiana* Klotzsch (Russian Caucasus, MSK 6566) and *P. nigra* Arnold (Čech Republic, collected by W. Wojewoda, KRAM-F 53637).

The other type of specialization is the occurrence of a fungus frequently on one host and very rarely on more 1–2 hosts – like *Peniophora quercina* (Pers.) Cooke frequently on *Quercus robur* and once on *Corylus avellana* L. (MSK 4562) in our collections. A clear distinguishing group of fungi when consider substratum specialization are inhabitants of coniferous species only. In Belarus the species still recorded on *Picea abies* (L.) Karst. and *P. sylvestris* only are *Amylostereum chailletii* (Pers.) Boidin, *Hyphodontia alutacea* (Fr.) J. Erikss., *Phlebiopsis gigantea* (Fr.) Jülich, *Pseudomerulius aureus* (Fr.) Jülich, and *Serpula himantioides* (Fr.) P. Karst.

Contrary, several species have very wide range of hosts, e.g. a good represented in MSK-F herbarium *Peniophora cinerea* (211 specimens from Belarus) was recorded in Belarus on 44 vascular hosts: *Acer japonicum* Thunb., *A. platanoides* L., *Aesculus hippocastanum* L., *Alnus glutinosa*, *A. incana*, *Amelanchier ovalis* Medik., *Betula pendula* Roth, *B. pubescens* Ehrh., *Carpinus betulus*, *Cerasus vulgaris* Mill., *Chamaenerion angustifolium* (L.) Scop., *Corylus avellana*, *Fagus sylvatica* L., *Fraxinus alnus* Mill., *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Fraxinus* sp., *Ligustrum vulgare* L., *Lonicera xylos-teum* L., *Malus domestica* Borkh., *M. domestica* × *prunifolia*, *M. ×prunifolia* (Willd.) Borkh., *M. sylvestris* Mill., *Padus avium* Mill., *Populus tremula*, *Prunus domestica* L., *Pyrus communis* L., *P. domestica* Medik., *Quercus borealis* Michx. f., *Q. robur*, *Ribes nigrum* L., *R. rubrum* L., *Rosa* cf. *subcanina* (Christ) Dalla Torre & Sarnth., *Rosa* sp., *Rubus nessensis*, *Salix caprea* L., *S. cinerea* L., *Sorbus aria* (L.) Crantz, *S. aucuparia* L., *S. hybrida* L., *Syringa vulgaris* L., *Tilia cordata*, plus on debris of three unidentified herbaceous species near wood. Such rich list of substrata is explained also by the wide ecological amplitude in respect to biotope types. Species like *Peniophora cinerea* and *P. incarnata* commonly found in ornamental woody plantations and dendrological collections, which extends their opportunities to colonize exots. Though, we have not collections of *P. cinerea* from gymnosperms. Similar multi-host behavior was observed for *Radulomyces confluens*, collected on *Amelanchier ovalis*, *Armeniaca vulgaris* Lam., *Caragana arborescens* Lam., *Cerasus vulgaris*, *Crataegus* sp., *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Malus domestica*, *M. domestica* × *prunifolia*, *M. ×prunifolia*, *M. sylvestris*, *Padus avium*, *Picea abies*, *Prunus divaricata* Ledeb., *P. domestica*, *Pyrus communis*, *P. domestica*, *Quercus robur*, *Ribes nigrum*, *Rubus idaeus*, *Sorbus aucuparia*.

In respect to wood decomposition the fungi inhabit it on all decay stages from still living and starting to decay to almost transformed into humus.

Still not clear studied subject is the relation of fungi to living, dying, and recently dead tissues of vascular plants as substratum. Not so easy to delimit the border between biotrophy, necrotrophy, and saprotrophy for wood-inhabiting fungi. Our purposeful search of *Corticiaceae* s. l. on living parts of trees has shown that the list of species is bigger than it was documented by previous workers. The most often event is basidiomata patches found on trunk wound calluses, i.e. roller-shaped excrescences around former wounds, covered by thin bark with rather chlorophyll-rich cells in cortex parenchyma. The fungi which were found in former wounds simultaneously on dead wood and on surrounding living tissues in Belarus are *Byssomerulius corium* (Pers.) Parmasto, *Coniophora puteana* (Schumach.) P. Karst., *Cylindrobasidium evolvens* (Fr.) Jülich, *Hymenochaete tabacina* (Sowerby) Lév., *Hyphodontia crustosa* (Pers.) J. Erikss., *H. sambuci* (Pers.) J. Erikss., *Hypochnicium bombycinum* (Sommerf.) J. Erikss., *Lagarobasidium detriticum* (Bourdot) Jülich, *Peniophora cinerea*, *P. incarnata* (Fig. 1), *Phanerochaete sordida* (P. Karst.) J. Erikss. & Ryvardeen, *Phle-*

bia aurea (Fr.) Nakasone, *Ph. tremellosa* (Schrad.) Nakasone & Burds., *Steccherinum fimbriatum* (Pers.) J. Erikss., *Stereum hirsutum* (Willd.) Gray. Several species were also collected from bark on the bordered of dead and living tissues of trunk and branches: *Hyphoderma mutatum* (Peck) Donk, *H. setigerum* (Fr.) Donk, *Peniophora nuda* (Fr.) Bres., *Phlebia radiata* Fr., *Radulomyces confluens*.

Besides trunks and branches, corticioid fungi are found on all kinds of woody plant organs, including roots, tendrils (Fig. 2), and fallen parts – bark pieces, leaf plates and petioles, fruits, cones. On fallen female cones of *Picea* and *Pinus* we collected common litter fungi *Amphinema byssoides*, *Athelia epiphylla* complex, *Phlebiella sulphurea*, and more rarely *Tylospora asterophora* (Bonord.) Donk; *Ceratobasidium cornigerum* was found on cone peduncle. Besides, *Tylospora fibrillosa* (Burt) Donk was collected on fallen male cones of *Pinus sylvestris* (Fig. 3).

Several species are parasitic on tree leaves – *Ceratobasidium ramicola* C.C. Tu, D.A. Roberts & Kimbr., *Corticium stevensii* Burt, and *Koleroga noxia* Donk (Domański 1991). *Ceratobasidium cornigerum*-like species, published under the name *Ceratobasidium* aff. *ramicola* C.C. Tu, D.A. Roberts & Kimbr. (Yurchenko 2003), was found fructifying on living *Juniperus communis* needles.

According to Jülich (1984) 20 species inhabit fallen angiosperm leaves, among them six species of *Athelia* and three of *Byssocorticium*; *Dacryobasidium lutescens* (J. Erikss. & Ryvarde) Jülich was described from decaying leaves only. Domański (1988, 1991, 1992) reported 20 saprobic species on angiosperms leaves and 7 species on fallen needles. This group includes *Trechispora gillesii* (Maas Geest.) Libert and *Tubulicium capitatum* (D.P. Roberts & Boquiren) Burds. & Nakasone described from dead leaves only, the latest species from palms, and *Leptosporomyces galzinii* (Bourdot) Jülich sometimes inhabiting fallen leaves submerged in stream water.

The list of species collected by us on fallen leaves of angiosperms includes *Amphinema byssoides*, *Athelia arachnoidea* (Berk.) Jülich, *A. epiphylla* complex, *Botryobasidium laeve* (J. Erikss.) Parmasto, *Hyphodontia floccosa* (Bourdot & Galzin) J. Erikss., *Leptosporomyces galzinii*, *Phanerochaete sanguinea*, *Ph. sordida*, *Steccherinum fimbriatum*, *Tylospora fibrillosa*. Besides, several fungi were observed on fallen leaves adhered to decaying wood debris – *Botryobasidium subcoronatum* (Höhn. & Litsch.) Donk, *Chondrostereum purpureum*, *Cylindrobasidium evolvens*, *Peniophora cinerea* (Fig. 4) or to old polypore pileus – *Sistotrema brinkmannii* (Bres.) J. Erikss. (Fig. 5). The species collected by us on fallen coniferous needles are *Amphinema byssoides*, *Athelia epiphylla* complex, *Phanerochaete sanguinea*, *Piloderma fallax*, *Sistotrema brinkmannii*, *Tomentella fuscocinerea* (Pers.) Donk.

Several corticioid species are important inhabitants of plant rhizosphere in boreal forests, forming ectomycorrhiza, especially *Piloderma byssinum* (P. Karst.) Jülich and *P. fallax*. *Thanatephorus pennatus* Currah and *Ypsilonidium sterigmaticum* (Bourdot) Donk (in state of *Rhizoctonia*) were isolated from mycorrhizal roots of orchids (Domański 1992). *Ceratobasidium cornigerum* in state of *Rhizoctonia goodyerae-repentis* auct. was isolated as endophyte from orchid roots (Warcup, Talbot 1966). We observed a complex of *Amphinema byssoides* and *Tomentella* vegetative hyphae associated with *Vaccinium myrtillus* roots (Fig. 6).

Domański (1988, 1991, 1992) classifies 10 species in *Corticaceae* s. l. as litter-inhabiting or colonizing different debris on soil. Some of plant debris decay fungi

have the ability to envelope by their basidiomata any meeting substratum, e.g. *Corticium boreoroseum* Boidin & Lanquetin.

The same author (1988, 1991, 1992) reported 18 species known from herbaceous stems and herb remains, including leaves. E.g. *Acanthobasidium delicatum* (Wakef.) Oberw., *Epithele typhae* (Pers.) Pat., and *Hypochnicium detriticum* were documented for *Cyperaceae* leaves. There are several species described in literature, specialized to inhabit some herbs, e.g. on *Cyperaceae* (*Acanthobasidium delicatum*), on Monocotyledoneae (*Epithele typhae*, *Phlebiella aurora* (Berk. & Broome) K.H. Larss. & Hjortstam), on *Poaceae* (*Acanthobasidium phragmitis*), on *Saccharum* (*Phanerochaete sacchari* (Burt.) Burds.), on *Typha* (*Hyphoderma typhicola* (Burt.) Donk; Jülich 1984; Domański 1988, 1991). *Tomentella cladii* Wakef. is reported by Jülich (1984) on *Cladium mariscus* (L.) Pohl. only and *Tomentella juncicola* Svrček on *Juncus* only. The species known on *Equisetum* are *Athelopsis lembospora* (Bourdot) Oberw., *Hypochnicium detriticum*, and *Sistotrema pteriphilum* K.H. Larss. & Hjortstam (Domański 1988, 1992).

We collected fungi on dead stems of *Chamaenerion angustifolium* (*Ceratobasidium* aff. *pseudocornigerum* M.P. Christ., *Peniophora cinerea*, *Sistotrema octosporum* (J. Schröt.) Hallenb.) and *Humulus lupulus* L. (*Aleurodiscus* cf. *cerussatus* (Bres.) Höhn. & Litsch., MSK 4963). *Chamaenerion angustifolium* was mentioned as host for *Tomentella coerulea* (Köljalg, 1996). Besides, dead herbaceous stems attached to dead wood and bark were observed to be covered by fruitbodies of *Peniophora cinerea* (MSK 5287), and *Phanerochaete sordida* (MSK 6619). The colonization of dead grass blades arranged closely to wood was recorded for *Botryobasidium candicans* J. Erikss. (MSK 4433), *Hyphoderma mutatum* (MSK 4098), *H. setigerum* (MSK 4431b), *Peniophora cinerea* (MSK 4573, 5287), and *Phanerochaete sanguinea* (4459).

There are several species of *Ceratobasidium* and *Thanatephorus* occurring on living herbs and belonging to economically meaningful crop pathogens, though their parasitic activity is sometimes controversial. Among them there are *Ceratobasidium oryzae-sativae* P.S. Gunnell & R.K. Webster and *C. setariae* (Sawada) P.S. Gunnell & R.K. Webster on rice and other crops (Gunnell, Webster 1987); *Thanatephorus corchorus* C.C. Tu et al. causing damping-off of *Corchorus capsularis* L. (Tu et al. 1977); *Thanatephorus cucumeris* (A.B. Frank) Donk – the most studied and known from over 200 hosts, mostly herbaceous ones, occurring mostly on stem bases and roots (Daniels 1963); *Th. praticola* (Kotila) Flentje growing on vegetables (de Silva & Wood 1964). Besides, *Athelia rolfsii* (Curzi) C.C. Tu & Kimbr. in state of *Sclerotium rolfsii* Sacc. causes leaf and stem blights and fruit damage of many hosts (Punja et al. 1982; Tu et al. 1992).

Other herb parasites are *Limonomyces roseipellis* Stalpers & Loer. and *L. culmigenus* (J. Webster & D.A. Reid) Stalpers & Loer. on *Poaceae* and *Cyperaceae* (Domański 1991) and *Thanatephorus langley-regis* D.A. Reid described from *Plantago lanceolata* L. (Reid 1969). *Thanatephorus orchidicola* Warcup & P.H.B. Talbot is known from living orchids (Warcup, Talbot 1966), but also was found on living fern (Kotiranta, Saarenoksa 1993).

Herbaceous Pteridiophyta sometimes draw special attention as substratum for *Corticaceae* s. l., e.g. Hjortstam & Larsson (1997) list 79 species on ferns. Handbook by Jülich (1984) reports 16 saprobic species on ferns, among them *Mycostigma aegeritoides* (Bourdot & Galzin) Jülich, *Parvobasidium cretatum* (Bourdot & Gal-

zin) Jülich, *Pteridomyces galzinii* (Bres.) Jülich, and *Repetobasidiellum fusisporum* J. Erikss. & Hjortstam known only from fern fronds, especially rachises. Hjortstam et al. (1988: 1471) indicate *Phlebiella filicina* (Bourdot) K.H. Larss. & Hjortstam as obligate fern inhabitant. Domański (1988, 1991, 1992) reported 26 species on herbaceous fern organs and fern debris, among them *Pteridomyces bananispurus* Boidin & Gilles and *P. capitatus* Boidin & Gilles described from ferns only, and *Athelia pyriformis* (M.P. Christ.) Jülich known on living ferns. *Tubulicium vermiculare* was found on both herbaceous and arboreous ferns. Two specimens from this ecological group were collected in Belarus on dead fronds – *Phanerochaete sordida* (MSK 6619) and *Sistotrema* sp. (MSK 5564).

BRYOPHYTA

The substratum associations of fungi with true mosses and hepatics are rather rich, but not enough documented by corticiologists. The fungi found on living mosses can be classified into the two groups: embracing moss sprouts close to dead wood or bark, where the basidioma grows (Fig. 7, 8) and occupying sprouts without clear connection of basidiomata with wood (Fig. 9). Evidently for a number of fungi moss sprouts serve for enlarging spore-producing surface and uplifting them above the ground. But in process of fungus-moss interaction a part of living moss organs become deformed, agglutinated and chlorophyll-less, indicating the evident negative fungus effect (Fig. 7).

A list of 19 species found on mosses can be extracted from Jülich's handbook (1984), from which *Tomentella brevispina* is reported on moss only. *Ceratobasidium bicornis* J. Erikss. & Ryvar den was published as known only from living *Polytrichum* (Eriksson, Ryvar den 1973). Domański (1988, 1991) reported 24 species on mosses including *Lindtneria leucobryophila* (Henn.) Jülich, described on this substratum only, and lichenized fungi *Athelia phycophila* Jülich (known from moss only), *Dictyonema irpicinum* Mont., *D. moorei* (Nyl.) Henssen, *D. pavonia* (Sw.) Parmasto, *D. sericeum* (Sw.) Berk.

Bryophyta come into interaction with fungi from the earliest ontogenetic stages, e.g. we observed the association of living embryo states of unknown moss with *Tomentella sublilacina* (Ellis & Holw.) Wakef. hyphae on *Picea abies* bark (MSK 6570).

In a previous paper (Yurchenko 2001) we described the associations of 35 corticioid fungi with 11 moss species. The most common union with Bryophyta forms *Amphinema byssoides*, which hyphal strands, basidiomata patches and individual hyphae occur on living and dead lower parts of ground mosses *Hylocomium*, *Pleurozium*, and *Ptilium*. The same habitat is frequently occupied by *Athelia epiphylla* complex. Frequent moss sprouts colonization is observed for fungi with actively growing hyphal strands and rhizomorphs, e.g. *Phanerochaete* spp. and *Steccherinum fimbriatum*. The biggest number of fungal species was collected in association with the genus *Brachythecium*. *Lophocolea heterophylla* (Schrad.) Dum. is a wood-inhabiting hepatic which living thalli most frequently overgrown by corticioid fungi, e.g. *Tomentella fuscocinerea*, *Tubulicrinis subulatus* (Bourdot & Galzin) Donk (Fig. 7), and *Tylospora fibrillosa*.

ALGAE

The substratum relations with algae is very poorly known phenomenon. The most prominent example is *Athelia arachnoidea*, causing lesions in algal films covering bark of trees and bushes, and described in details by us (Yurchenko, Golubkov 2003). Evidently other fungi are able to colonize epiphytic algae cover, but without such destructive activity, e.g. *Hyphodontia rimosissima* (Peck) Gilb. which fruitbody was found growing in some areas on well discernible layer of green coccoid algae (Fig. 10).

LICHENIZED FUNGI

The inhabitation of lichens by *Corticaceae* s. l. is also poorly documented. The species mentioned on living and dead lichens in main handbooks are *Amphinema byssoides*, *Athelia epiphylla* s. l. (*Athelia epiphylla* Pers., *A. salicum* Pers.), and *Sistotrema muscicola* (Pers.) S. Lundell (Eriksson, Ryvar den 1973; Jülich 1984; Domański 1988, 1992). The active parasitizing of living lichens is known for us for *Athelia arachnoidea* only. Rypaček (1967) discussed the antibiotic action of lichens on wood decay fungi in natural environment. He concluded that lichen metabolites, mostly lichen acids, suppress mycelial growth and enzymatic activity of fungi in wood. Nevertheless, we observed a number of resupinate non-poroid Homobasidiomycetes coming into dense interaction with lichen thalli, e.g. *Botryobasidium candicans*, *Cylindrobasidium evolvens*, *Peniophora cinerea* (Fig. 11), *P. nuda* (Fig. 12), *Phlebiella sulphurea*, *Schizopora paradoxa* (Schrad.) Donk, *Sistotrema brinkmannii*, *Sistotremastrum suecicum*.

NON-LICHENIZED FUNGI AND MYXOMYCETES

Corticaceae s. l. were observed on various taxonomic groups of other fungi, including ascomycetes, polyporoid and agaricoid homobasidiomycetes, and conidiomata of anamorphic fungi.

Pyrenomycete stromata serve as substratum e.g. for *Hyphoderma setigerum* (on *Daldinia concentrica* (Bolton) Ces. & De Not., MSK 6210; also Yurchenko, Zmitrovich 2001) and *Peniophora cinerea* (on *Diatrypella favacea* (Fr.) Ces. & De Not., MSK 6430). *Xenasma aculeatum* C.E. Gómez was reported on *Hypoxylon* ascomata (Domański 1992). Sometimes corticioid basidiomata occupy apothecia and subiculum of discomycetes, e.g. *Tapesia* (Fig. 13). *Corticium quercicola* was reported to be regularly associated with old *Colpoma* ascomata (Jülich 1984).

The inhabiting of decaying basidiomata of one fungus by another growing fungus is rather well known phenomenon for wood-inhabiting Aphyllorphorales in general. The highest ability to colonize other aphyllorphoroid fungi we observed for *Sistotrema brinkmannii*: it occurred on *Fomitopsis pinicola* (Sw.) P. Karst. (MSK 6419), *Ganoderma lucidum* (Curtis) P. Karst. (MSK 6212), *Peniophora incarnata* (MSK 4543), *P. quercina* (MSK 6296), resupinate *Phellinus* sp. (MSK 5804), and *Stereum hirsutum* (MSK 5771).

Sometimes substratum relations between two corticioid fungi can be rather complicated, e.g. the fruitbodies grow on each other in different areas. Example shown on Figure 14 is *Hymenochaete tabacina* occupying *Peniophora nuda* basidioma, but in the center of photo a patch of *P. nuda* margin going on *H. tabacina* is visible.

Two fungi are known as evidently specialized parasites on other *Corticiaceae* s. l.: *Galzinia forcipata* Pouzar on *Elaphocephala* and *Laetisaria arvalis* Burds. hyperparasitic on *Thanatephorus cucumeris* (Domański 1988, 1991).

Polypores are frequently occupied by resupinate non-poroid Homobasidiomycetes, which was reflected in many publications, e.g. 33 species were listed by Besl et al. (1989). Jülich (1984) reported 7 species growing on old polypore fruitbodies. Large polypores not rarely are used by corticioid fungi as main nutritive substratum. For instance, a fruitbody of *Phanerochaete laevis* (Pers.) J. Erikss. & Ryvarden totally overgrowing *Fomes fomentarius* (L.) J.J. Kickx hymenophore is shown on Fig. 15.

Associations with agarics is more rare event. *Marasmius androsaceus* (L.) Fr. rhizomorphs and pileus-less stipes is a common component of coniferous forest litter in Belarus, and e.g. *Hyphodontia breviseta* (P. Karst.) J. Erikss. (MSK 6222) was recorded on this substratum. Colonization of *Armillaria* spp. rhizomorphs attached to decaying wood was observed for *Amphinema byssoides* (MSK 4473) and *Hyphoderma praetermissum* (P. Karst.) J. Erikss. & Å. Strid (Fig. 16).

Anamorphic fungi fruitbodies as substratum for corticioid fungi are still neglected by mycologists. An example is *Peniophora cinerea* several times observed on growing or decaying *Exosporium tiliae* Link conidiomata on dead *Tilia cordata* branches (Yurchenko 2001). *Peniophora incarnata* was also recorded once on *Exosporium* (Fig. 17; coll. Ye. Rotkina). Pycnidia of mitosporic fungi occurring on decaying wood are rather frequently enveloped by corticioid basidiomata. Among our collections are *Sistotremastrum niveocremeum* (Höhn. & Litsch.) J. Erikss. covering spore-producing and destroying pycnidia of *Chaetodiplodia* sp. (MSK 4716) and *Tubulicrinis subulatus* on *Diplodia*-like fungus (Fig. 18).

Very rarely corticioid fungi occur on myxomycetes. Among our collections is *Peniophora incarnata* (MSK 4618) totally overgrowing a group of myxomycete sporocarps on wood.

SOIL AND HUMUS

The collective of corticioid species inhabiting soil is rather numerous, but they in general bulk are neglected in lists reviewing local mycobiotas. Commonly such species also inhabit litter. Their fructifications occur especially in soil interstices, e.g. mammal burrows. Some species belong to the fungi regularly occurring in upper soil layer, e.g. *Piloderma fallax* and *Tylospora fibrillosa*. The observations of *Piloderma fallax* in Belarus permit to classify it more strictly as lower litter horizon fungus. The list of fungi growing on ground and humus extracted by us from Jülich's handbook (1984) includes 28 species, from which 3 species belong to the genus *Byssocorticium*, 10 species to *Tomentella*, and 4 species to *Tomentellastrum*; the species *Tomentella fragilis* (Bourdot & Galzin) M.J. Larsen, *T. nitellina* Bourdot & Galzin, *Tomentellastrum fuscocinereum* (Pers.) Svrček, *T. litschaueri* (Svrček) M.J. Larsen are reported only on soil and humus. Domański (1988, 1991, 1992) listed on soil and humus 27 species, including 4 species of *Sistotrema*, 4 species of *Trechispora*, lichenized *Athelia andina* Jülich, *Diclyonema pavonia*, and *D. sericeum*, and the fungi reported only on soil or in soil: *Conohypha terricola* (Burt) Jülich, *Echinotrema clanculare* Park.-Rhodes, *Sistotrema hypogaeum* Warcup & P.H.B. Talbot, *Waitea circinata* Warcup & P.H.B. Talbot. The remarkable observations of *Peniophora lauta* H.S. Jacks. and *Tomentella*

fusca (Pers.) Schröt. fructifications on soil clods in cultivated fields were made by Warcup and Talbot (1963). Occasionally typical wood fungi occur on soil particles close to decaying wood, as *Peniophora incarnata* (MSK 4682).

MINERAL SUBSTRATA

Several species were reported from stone surface in natural circumstances: *Athelia andina*, *Piloderma lapillicola* Jülich, *Scopuloides hydroides* (Cooke & Masee) Hjortstam & Ryvarden, *Tomentella calcicola* (Bourdot & Galzin) M.J. Larsen, *T. subcinerascens* Litsch., *Tomentellastrum caesiocinereum* Svrček (Jülich 1984; Domański 1992). *Tomentella radiosa* (P. Karst.) Rick was reported on sand (Kõljalg 1996). We collected *Tomentella bryophila* (Pers.) M.J. Larsen underside of limestone piece in Crimean forest (MSK 5985).

House fungi are known to be colonizing artificial stony materials, e.g. *Coniophora marmorata* Desm. (Jülich 1984) and *Serpula lacrymans* (Wulfen) J. Schröt. (MSK 12127) were observed on concrete. Growth of *S. lacrymans* is known on different calcium-containing mineral materials (Bech-Andersen 2005), bricks, oven clay, and even on glazed tile (Bondartsev 1948). *Leucogyrophana olivascens* (Berk. & M.A. Curtis) Ginns & Weresub (MSK 4945) was collected on mixed substratum of sand, subclay, and brick pieces in cellar.

OTHER SUBSTRATA

There are several exotic substrata not mentioned above. Apples at store are colonized by *Athelia rolfsii* (Punja 1982) and *Butlerelfia eustacei* Weresub & Illman (Weresub, Illman 1980) causing their decay. Rare cases are associations of fruit-bodies with chitine invertebrate debris, like *Hyphoderma setigerum* (MSK 4431b), in which thickened up to 7 mm basidioma tightly embraces, incorporates in and grows through big chitine exoskeletons of an unidentified insect. The using of living nematodes as nutritive substratum is a scarcely investigated fact, known for probable *Hyphoderma* sp. with stephanocysts (Liou, Tzean 1992). Single species was described from dung – *Dacrybasidium coprophilum* (Wakef.) Jülich, but it can also colonize leaves and twigs (Jülich 1984). Two species of *Trechispora*, *T. polygonospora* Ryvarden and *T. spinulifera* Jülich were found on termitaries (Domański 1992). *Hypochnicium eichleri* (Bres.) J. Erikss. & Ryvarden was collected once on earth-worm excrements (Eriksson, Ryvarden 1976), which can be indeed classified as a type of humus substratum.

Should be mention that *Serpula lacrymans* can grow on different artificial semi-natural (fibre board, gypsum plates, wallpaper, textiles) and synthetic (polyurethane foam) materials (Bech-Andersen 2005). We observed this fungus on old book (ex CWU sine No.).

CONCLUSION

The data accumulated in literature and by us show that the range of substrata for corticioid fungi *in situ* includes all types of terrestrial plant bodies, both living and dead, other fungi, both lichenized and non-lichenized, humus, mineral bodies, and in exclusive cases invertebrates and shallow water submerged plant debris. Our ob-

servations demonstrated that typically wood-inhabiting fungi can be found on different non-woody substrata. In most cases these are the particles attached or adjacent to decaying wood or bark. Some litter fungi, especially those with rhizomorphs of hyphal cords, have the ability to cover any meeting substratum. Frequently fungi colonize living mosses near wood or bark surface with outer observing negative effect on them. Lichens and algae are much less documented substrata for Corticiaceae s. l. than other cryptogams (mosses and ferns). Colonization of different kinds of artificial mineral, semi-natural, and synthetic materials is still known for house fungi only, especially for *Serpula lacrymans*.

Acknowledgements: The work was partly supported by grant B05 171 of Belarusian Republican Fund for Fundamental Research. I am grateful to Hbl. Dr G.F. Rykovsky (V.F. Kuprevich Institute of Experimental Botany, Minsk) for identifications of some Bryophyta and to Dr D.I. Tret'yakov (the same institution) for identifications of some vascular hosts. I am thankful to Mr. A. Yu. Akulov (Mycology and Plant Resistance Department, Kharkiv National University, CWU Myc herbarium) for giving a duplicate of *Serpula lacrymans* growing on book.

The materials of this paper were partly presented as poster at XIV Congress of European Mycologists. I met Prof. Alina Skirgiełło first there and she become interested in my research into interaction of corticioid fungi with other organisms. Thanking in that number to this meeting the materials become summarized and promulgated.

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Naturalne substraty dla grzybów korticoidalnych

Streszczenie

Autor podaje przegląd typów substratów zasiedlanych przez grzyby nieporoidalne przytaczając przykłady z literatury i własnych obserwacji na Białorusi. Jako podłoża dla grzybów wyróżnia drzewa, krzewy i zielne rośliny naczyniowe, mszaki, glony, grzyby zlichenizowane i niezlichenizowane, a także śluzowce i bezkręgowce. Grzyby występują na żywych i obumarłych, w różnych stadiach rozkładu organizmach oraz ich częściach. Ponadto grzyby znane są jako występujące na glebie, próchnicy, skałach, sztucznych, syntetycznych materiałach oraz na odchodach.