

1 **Dual colonization of Mucoromycotina and Glomeromycotina fungi in the basal**
2 **liverwort, *Haplomitrium mnioides* (Haplomitriopsida)**

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Abstract

In general, Glomeromycotina was thought to be the earliest fungi forming mycorrhiza-like structure (MLS) in land plant evolution. In contrast, because the earliest divergent lineage of extant land plants, i.e. Haplomitriopsida liverworts, associates only with Mucoromycotina mycobionts, recent studies suggested that those fungi are novel candidate for the earliest mycobionts. Therefore, Mucoromycotina-Haplomitriopsida association currently attracts attention as an ancient mycorrhiza-like association. However, mycobionts were identified only in seven of 16 Haplomitriopsida species and the mycobionts diversity of this lineage is largely unclarified. To clarify the taxonomic composition of mycobionts in Haplomitriopsida, we observed MLSs in the rhizome of *Haplomitrium mnioides* (Haplomitriopsida), the Asian representative Haplomitriopsida species, and conducted molecular identification of mycobionts. It was recorded for the first time that Glomeromycotina and Mucoromycotina co-occur in Haplomitriopsida as mycobionts. Significantly, the arbuscule-like branching (ALB) of Glomeromycotina was newly described. As the Mucoromycotina fungi forming MLSs in *H. mnioides*, Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae were detected, in which size differences of hyphal swelling (HS) were found between the fungal families. This study provides a novel evidence in the MLS of Haplomitriopsida, i.e. the existence of Glomeromycotina association as well as the dominant Mucoromycotina association. In addition, since hyphal characteristics of the HS-type MLS were quite similar to those of fine endophytes (FE) of Endogonales in other bryophytes and vascular plants previously described, this MLS is suggested to be included in FE. These results suggest that Glomeromycotina and Mucoromycotina were acquired concurrently as the mycobionts by the earliest land plants evolved into arbuscular mycorrhizae and FE. Therefore, dual association of Haplomitriopsida, with Endogonales and Glomeromycotina will provide us novel insight how the earliest land plants adapted to terrestrial habitats with fungi.

Key words

Basal land plant · Endogonales · Fine endophyte · Glomeromycotina · Mucoromycotina · Mycorrhizal association

1 INTRODUCTION

2 It is widely accepted that the earliest land plant established its terrestrial habitat in
3 association with Glomeromycotina fungi as a mycorrhiza-like association (Redecker et al.,
4 2000; Simon et al. 1993; Smith and Read 2008). This hypothesis is strongly supported by
5 arbuscule-like branching (ALB) of Glomeromycotina in the thalli of basal land plants, i.e.
6 liverworts (at least 13 of 27 families in Marchantiopsida and Jungermanniopsida; Ligrone et
7 al. 2007). In addition, bidirectional exchange of nutrient and carbon between
8 Glomeromycotina and liverworts has been reported (Field et al., 2012).

9 In contrast, another mycorrhiza-like structure (MLS) has been reported in
10 Haplomitriopsida liverworts, the extant earliest land plant and a sister lineage of the
11 remaining liverworts (Marchantiopsida and Jungermanniopsida). In *Haplomitrium*
12 (Haplomitriales), fungal colonization is restricted to the epidermis of the rhizome and the
13 intracellular hyphae show hyphal swelling (HS) at the apex (Carafa et al. 2003). This HS
14 was originally described as lump by Lilienfeld (1911) who observed MLS of *Haplomitrium*
15 *hookeri* (Lyll ex Sm.) Nees. Similar MLS was then observed on *Treubia* (Haplomitriopsida)
16 (Stahl 1949). These MLSs were observed in detail with transmission electron microscope
17 and were recognized as a unique MLS type formed by Glomeromycotina. However, the
18 hyphae observed in Haplomitriopsida are distinctly different from trunk hyphae (3–6 μm in
19 diameter) and arbuscule (dichotomous branching, 0.8–1.5 μm in diameter) in
20 Glomeromycotina (Smith and Read 2008), as they are fine, constant in width (0.8–1.5 μm in
21 diameter), and irregularly branched (Bidartondo et al. 2011; Carafa et al. 2003; Duckett et al.
22 2006). In addition, the HS observed in *Haplomitrium* is thin-walled and therefore easily
23 distinguishable from vesicles of Glomeromycotina (Smith and Read 2008). Interestingly,
24 those distinctive mycobionts of Haplomitriopsida were exclusively identified as
25 Mucoromycotina by molecular analyses (Bidartondo et al. 2011). Because basal clade of

1 land plants, i.e. Haplomitriopsida, associated only with Mucoromycotina, Bidartondo et al.
2 (2011) created a novel hypothesis that the first land plant-fungal association was established
3 by Mucoromycotina rather than Glomeromycotina. Recent phylogenetic studies suggest that
4 Haplomitriopsida liverworts are associated with at least two distinct families of Endogonales
5 in Mucoromycotina (i.e. Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae; Desirò et al. 2017).
6 Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae are distinguished from one another by the morphology
7 of their hyphae, with Endogonaceae forming thicker hyphae than Densosporaceae
8 (Yamamoto et al. 2017b).

9 Several species of Marchantiopsida and Jungermanniopsida (Field et al. 2015c;
10 Strullu-Derrien et al. 2014), and many hornworts (Desirò et al. 2013) are associated with
11 both Mucoromycotina (Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae) and Glomeromycotina.
12 Coexistence of diverse fungi associated with basal plants is suggested to mirror an ecological
13 trait of ancient land plants from around four hundred million years ago (Field et al. 2015a).
14 The existence of various fungal options for those plants might have facilitated subsequent
15 plant diversification in ancient land (Field et al. 2015c). However, there is not enough
16 information available to clarify the mycobiont of the earliest land plant. Although recent
17 studies have emphasized that Mucoromycotina fungi, specific to Haplomitriopsida, are the
18 most likely candidate, this hypothesis is open to question. In fact, mycobionts were
19 identified only in seven (Bidartondo et al. 2011) of 16 Haplomitriopsida species accepted by
20 Bakalin and Vilnet (2017) and Söderström et al. (2016). Furthermore, Glomeromycotina
21 fungi were once reported as mycobionts of *Haplomitrium chilensis* R.M. Schust. (Ligrone et
22 al. 2007). This finding is however based only on molecular identification, and whether
23 Glomeromycotina has the ability to form ALB on Haplomitriopsida is not yet settled.

24 In this study, we conducted morphological characterization of MLSs in *Haplomitrium*
25 *mnioides* (Lindb.) R.M. Schust. (Haplomitriopsida), the Asian representative

1 Haplomitriopsida species (Bartholomew-Began 1991; Shi and Zhu 2006), and molecular
2 identification of its mycobionts for the first time. Here, we report the first evidence of
3 Haplomitriopsida-Glomeromycotina associations. Additionally, we show morphological
4 differences between the MLSs of Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae.

6 MATERIALS AND METHODS

7 Preparation of *Haplomitrium mnioides* gametophytes

8 *Haplomitrium mnioides* were sampled at seven sites (Table S1) in the western and southern
9 regions of Japan, where *H. mnioides* is mainly distributed (Shi and Zhu 2006). A single *H.*
10 *mnioides* colony was collected at each site. As the MLS of *Haplomitrium* spp. actively
11 develops throughout the seasons of sporophyte development and degenerates after spores
12 release (Carafa et al. 2003), sampling of *H. mnioides* was tentatively conducted just before
13 maturation of sporophytes in Kyoto (Table S1) in April 2012. Healthy MLSs were observed
14 in the numerous epidermal cells of the sample. Following this, the other samples of *H.*
15 *mnioides* were obtained a few months before sporophyte maturation. Samples were stored in
16 a refrigerator at 5°C and used for analyses within 3 days. Each sample was washed with tap
17 water and soil particles attached to rhizomes were removed under a dissection microscope
18 (Zeiss Stemi 2000C). 15 or 30 rhizomes of each sample were used for morphological and
19 molecular analyses (Table 1). Each washed rhizome was longitudinally sectioned into two
20 using a razor under a dissection microscope, with one side used for morphological
21 observation of the MLS, and the other used for molecular identification of mycobionts.
22 Rhizome sections for molecular identification were immersed in 100 µL of TE buffer and
23 stored at -65°C. Part of examined gametophyte of each sample was deposited as voucher
24 specimen in Herbarium of Hiroshima University (HIRO) (Table S1).

26 DNA extraction, PCR amplification, and DNA sequencing

1 Total DNA was extracted from each rhizome (ca. 3 mm long) of *H. mnioides* according to
2 Izumitsu et al. (2012) using a microwave with minor modifications. Before heating in a
3 microwave, each rhizome fragment was crushed thoroughly using a homogenization pestle
4 under a dissection microscope. The resultant supernatants were used as templates for PCR.

5 Partial sequences of the fungal 18S rDNA were amplified by PCR using a KAPA2G
6 Robust Hotstart ReadyMix PCR Kit (KapaBiosystems, Wilmington, MA, USA), according
7 to the manufacturer's instructions. In accordance with the protocol in Desirò et al. (2013),
8 fungal universal primers, NS1 (White et al. 1990) and EF3 (Smit et al. 1999), were used for
9 first PCR. Similar to Desirò et al. (2013), first PCR amplicons yielded insufficient DNA for
10 sequencing, therefore, second PCR was conducted. The first PCR products were diluted
11 100-fold with sterilized distilled water and used as templates for second PCR. As
12 Mucoromycotina and Glomeromycotina were most likely mycobionts of *H. mnioides* based
13 on the preliminarily conducted morphological observations (data not shown), specific primer
14 pairs for Mucoromycotina (EndAD1f and EndAD2r; Desirò et al. 2013) and
15 Glomeromycotina (AML1 and AML2; Lee et al. 2008) were used separately for the second
16 PCR of each sample. Both the first and second PCRs were performed using the ProFlex™
17 PCR System (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) under the following conditions:
18 95°C for 2 min; 37 cycles of 95°C for 12 s, annealing at 55–58°C for 12 s, and 72°C for 12 s.
19 If PCR products were difficult to sequence directly, they were cloned. PCR products were
20 purified using the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen Inc., Hilden, Germany).

21 DNA sequencing for the forward and reverse strands of PCR amplicons were
22 performed using a BigDye Terminator v. 3.1 Cycle Sequencing Kit (Life Technologies Inc.,
23 Carlsbad, CA, USA) with a reaction volume of 10 µL. The primers used for the second PCR
24 described above were also used for the sequencing reactions. The sequencing reaction,
25 purification of reaction products, and sequence analyses were performed as previously

1 described (Yamamoto et al. 2015). Chimera checking performed for newly generated
2 sequences of mycobionts with UCHIME2 (Edgar 2016) and DECIPHER (Wright et al.
3 2012) resulted in detecting no chimeric sequences. Those sequences were deposited in the
4 DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ; <http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp>; LC417248–LC417301).

6 **Phylogenetic analyses**

7 Since the mycobionts of *H. mnioides* were inferred to belong to Endogonales and
8 Glomeromycotina based on the results of NCBI nucleotide BLAST
9 (<https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>), dataset-1 (Endogonales) and -2
10 (Glomeromycotina) were independently prepared for phylogenetic analyses. Dataset-1
11 included the following sequences: (1) putative Endogonales mycobionts of *H. mnioides*, (2)
12 Mucoromycotina mycobionts of other Haplomitriopsida liverworts (Bidartondo et al. 2011;
13 Field et al. 2015b), (3) sequences of Endogonales obtained from sporocarp specimens, and
14 (4) outgroups, i.e. *Mortierella chlamydospora* (Chesters) Plaats-Niterink
15 (Mortierellomycotina, Mucoromycota), *Calcarisporiella thermophile* (H.C. Evans) de Hoog
16 and *Echinochlamydosporium variabile* X.Z. Jiang, H.Y. Yu, M.C. Xiang, X.Y. Liu & X.Z.
17 Liu (Order *incertae sedis*, Mucoromycotina; Hirose et al. 2014). Dataset-2 included the
18 following sequences: (1) putative Glomeromycotina mycobionts of *H. mnioides*, (2)
19 Glomeromycotina mycobiont of *H. chilensis* (Ligrone et al. 2007), (3) sequences of known
20 species and virtual taxa (Öpik et al. 2010) in the Glomeromycotina with high similarity to
21 the mycobiont of *H. mnioides* and *H. chilensis* determined by blast search in a database of
22 Glomeromycotina sequences (MaarjAM: <http://maarjam.botany.ut.ee/>; Öpik et al. 2010), (4)
23 sequences of the two species in all orders of Glomeromycotina, i.e. Glomerales,
24 Diversisporales, Archaeosporales, and Paraglomerales, and (5) outgroups (*M.*
25 *chlamydospora* and *Endogone pisiformis* Link [Endogonales]). MUSCLE implemented in

1 MEGA ver. 6.06 (Tamura et al. 2013) was used for preliminary multiple alignments of
2 nucleotide sequences and final alignments were adjusted manually. Alignment gaps were
3 treated as missing data, and ambiguous positions were excluded from the analyses. Finally,
4 two datasets were prepared (dataset 1: 1605 bp; dataset 2: 777 bp) and deposited in
5 TreeBASE (<http://purl.org/phylo/treebase/phyloids/study/TB2:S23178>). Phylogenetic
6 analyses of both datasets were conducted by maximum likelihood (ML), maximum
7 parsimony (MP), and Bayesian inference (BI) methods. The general time reversible model of
8 nucleotide substitution with a discrete gamma distribution was adapted for ML and BI. ML
9 analyses were performed using raxmlGUI ver. 1.31 (Silvestro and Michalak 2012) as
10 described in Yamamoto et al. (2017a). BI was performed using MrBayes 3.2.1 (Ronquist et
11 al. 2012) as described in Yamamoto et al. (2015). Two runs with four chains of Markov
12 chain Monte Carlo iteration were performed for 2 million generations. MP was performed
13 using MEGA ver. 6.06 as described in Yamamoto et al. (2015). The tree bisection
14 reconnection (TBR) model was adapted for MP.

16 **Morphological observation of MLSs**

17 Trypan blue staining was conducted for the rhizome samples from which sequences of
18 mycobionts were obtained. The staining procedure followed the protocol of Koske and
19 Gemma (1989), with minor modifications. Rhizomes were soaked in 2.5% KOH and heated
20 at 105°C for 12 min, rinsed with tap water, and soaked in 1.5% HCl for 15 h at room
21 temperature. Finally, rhizomes were stained with 0.05% trypan blue in lactoglycerol (100%
22 lactic acid/100% glycerol/distilled water; 1:1:1, v/v/v) at 105°C for 1 h. Rhizomes were
23 mounted with polyvinyl alcohol-lactoglycerol according to the procedure given in Koske and
24 Tessier (1983). Microscopic observations were conducted using a differential interference
25 contrast microscope (AXIO Imager A1, Carl Zeiss Inc.). In addition, the following structures

1 were measured for the abundance and size in each rhizome: number of host cells containing
2 (1) HS and (2) ALB, (3) number of HS in a colonized host cell, (4) diameter of HS, and (5)
3 number of putative intraradical spores of Glomeromycotina. Generally, surface of the HS is
4 smooth in immature and wrinkled in mature MLS (Duckett et al. 2006; Field et al. 2015b).
5 Measurements were conducted of mature HS and some rhizome samples were not measured
6 due to immaturity or collapse of HS. The diameter of HS in samples from which
7 Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae sequences were detected were compared statistically
8 using KaleidaGraph ver. 4J (Hulinks Inc., Tokyo, Japan). Welch's *t*-test was adopted to
9 determine significant difference ($P < 0.01$) between means.

11 **RESULTS**

12 **Morphological characteristics of *Haplomitrium mnioides* in Japan**

13 Gametophytes were composed of leafy shoots and underground creeping rhizomes which
14 were covered with colorless mucilage (Fig. S1). The rhizomes consisted of main axes and
15 short lateral branches (Fig. 1A). Pale parts were observed on the short branches of healthy
16 green rhizomes (Fig. 1B, S1C, E, F), where epidermal and cortical cells contained fungi
17 showing MLSs (Fig. 1D–R). Extraradical spores of Glomeromycotina (thick-walled, ca. 100
18 μm in diameter, with single subtending hypha) were rarely observed outside the surface of
19 the rhizome with the connection of extraradical hyphae (Fig. 1C, S3).

21 **Molecular identification of mycobionts of *Haplomitrium mnioides***

22 Forty-six sequences of Mucoromycotina (Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae; Fig. 2, Table
23 1) and eight sequences of Glomeromycotina (Fig. 3, Table 1) were obtained by direct
24 sequencing with each specific primer pair. Of these, Glomeromycotina consisted of a
25 *Glomus* sp. and three Glomeraceae with uncertain lower taxa in Glomerales, and four in the

1 sister clade of *Archaeospora-Geosiphon-Ambispora* clade in Archaeosporales.

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5 **3 Three morphotypes of the MLS and their phylogenetic relationships**

6 Hyphae colonizing in the epidermal cells of rhizomes were stained purplish-blue by trypan
7
8 blue (Fig. S2). Fungal intracellular colonization was patchily observed in the rhizomes with
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10 clusters of tens to hundreds of colonized epidermal cells. MLSs were largely grouped into
11
12 two morphotypes based on their intracellular hyphal morphology: (1) HS-type and (2)
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14 ALB-type. Co-colonization of HS-type and ALB-type in single cell was never observed. HS
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16 and intracellular fine hyphae of HS-type (Fig. 1D–K) agreed with "lump" (Carafa et al.
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18 2003; Duckett et al. 2006; Field et al. 2015b; Lilienfeld 1911) and hyphal coils, respectively,
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20 and were observed in the Endogonales-Haplomitriopsida associations (Bidartondo et al.
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22 2011; Field et al. 2015b). ALB with trunk hyphae of ALB-type (Fig. 1L–P) closely
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24 resembled the MLS of Marchantiopsida- and Jungermanniopsida-Glomeromycotina
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26 associations (Ligrone et al. 2007). MLSs were present in all colonies of *H. mnioides*
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28 observed in this study, however the ratio of colonized rhizomes per examined rhizomes
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30 differed among samples: 93.3% in UW, 53.3% in IS, 40% in IN, 33.3% in KY, 23.3% in HI,
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32 20 % in HA and 10% in NA (Table 1, S2). HS-type colonization was present in all colonies
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34 of *H. mnioides*, except HA which contained only ALB-type (Table 1). The ratio of host cells
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36 with HS (including degenerated and immature swellings) colonization per all colonized cells
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38 were 100% in NA, HI and UW, 79.8% in KY, 49.2% in IS, 15.7% in IN and 0% in HA
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40 (Table 1, S2). By contrast, ALB-type colonization was present only in four colonies of *H.*
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42 *mnioides* (Table 1). The ratio of host cells with ALB colonization per all colonized cells
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44 were 100 % in HA, 84.3% in IN, 50.8% in IS, 20.2% in KY, 0% in NA, HI and UW (Table 1,
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46 S2). In summary, the ratios of colonization by Mucoromycotina and Glomeromycotina were
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48 largely different between each *H. mnioides* colony. Co-colonization of HS-type (including
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1 degenerated and immature swellings) and ALB-type was observed in single rhizome from
2 Kyoto (KY-4, 5, 9 and 20), Ishigaki (IS-3, 4, 6 and 11) and Ino (IN-2, 4, 11 and 12) (Table 1,
3 S2). Intraradical spores were also observed within the rhizomes containing ALB from Kyoto,
4 Ino and Hachijo-jima Isl. Sequences of Mucoromycotina were always obtained from
5 rhizomes containing HS-type colonization, and were not obtained from HA sample which
6 contained only ALB-type (Table S2). In rhizome samples containing Mucoromycotina, the
7 size of the HS was significantly different between Endogonaceae (large) and
8 Densosporaceae (small) (Fig. 4, Table S2). In addition, ALB (and intraradical spores)
9 presence and detection of Glomeromycotina sequences almost corresponded (Table 1, S2).
10 Morphological differences in ALB between Glomerales and Archaeosporales were not
11 clarified.

12 Morphological characteristics of MLS in each fungal taxon detected were described
13 below:

14 Endogonaceae: HS-type MLSs were observed (Fig. 1D–G). Hyphae were 0.5–5.3 μm
15 in diameter, often aseptate, rarely forming 1 secondary septa, randomly branching, lacking in
16 dichotomous branching pattern (Fig. 1E). No hyphal colonization was observed from
17 previously colonized cells to neighboring uncolonized cells. HS was spherical, terminal, 10–
18 34 μm in diameter, 21 μm of mean ($n = 258$), stained deep purplish-bluish with trypan blue
19 in the intracellular contents. Single colonized host cell involved 1–6 HSs, mean 1.8 ($n = 105$).
20 This type was observed and molecularly identified in Kyoto (KY-6, 15 and 24), Ishigaki
21 (IS-1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 14), Higashi-hiroshima (HI-1, 7 and 11) and Uwajima (UW-1–10
22 and 12–15).

23 Densosporaceae: HS-type MLS was observed (Fig. 1H–K), but different from
24 Endogonaceae in the following points. Hyphae were fine, 0.7–2.7 μm in diameter. (Fig. 1H).
25 HS was 6–21 μm in diameter, 11 μm of mean ($n = 530$). Single colonized host cell involved

1 2–30 HSs, mean 8.3 (n = 59). This type was observed and molecularly identified in Kyoto
 2 (KY-1, 4, 9, 17 and 25), Nabari (NA-24, 28 and 30), Higashi-hiroshima (HI-8, 13, 14 and
 3 16) and Ino (IN-2–4 and 10–12).

4 Glomeromycotina: ALB-type MLS was observed (Fig. 1L–P). ALB composed of
 5 trunk hyphae with 3.5–8.9 μm in diameter and treelike branching part. Hyphal colonization
 6 was frequently observed from previously colonized host cells to neighboring uncolonized
 7 cells (Fig. 1P). Intraradical spores [23–34 μm in diameter, 28.1 μm of mean (n = 11)] which
 8 are known to be formed inside roots by diverse lineages of Glomeromycotina, i.e.
 9 Paraglomerales, Archaeosporales, Diversisporales, and Glomerales (Morton and Redecker
 10 2001), were sometimes formed in the rhizome (Fig. 1Q). Subtending hypha of those spores
 11 connected to hyphae colonizing in the epidermal cells of rhizomes. This type was observed
 12 and molecularly identified in Kyoto (KY-5, 9 and 20), Ishigaki (IS-11), Ino (IN-12) and
 13 Hachijo (HA-3, 5 and 8).

14 Simultaneous colonizations of Mucoromycotina and Glomeromycotina were observed
 15 in several rhizomes, both based on morphology and phylogeny (Table S2, Fig. 2, 3):
 16 Endogonales and Glomerales were detected in the sample IS-11, Densosporaceae and
 17 Glomerales in sample KY-9 (Fig. 1R) and Densosporaceae and Archaeosporales in sample
 18 IN-12.

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20 **DISCUSSION**

21 This study provides a novel evidence in the MLS of Haplomitriopsida, i.e. the existence of
 22 Glomeromycotina association. In this study, we failed to detect any morphological
 23 differences in ALB between Glomerales and Archaeosporales. Further samplings and
 24 observations are necessary. The ALB-type MLS on Haplomitriopsida is similar to the
 25 Marchantiopsida-Glomeromycotina symbiosis and arbuscular mycorrhizal (AM) symbioses

1 of vascular plants (Field et al. 2012; Humphreys et al. 2010; Smith and Read 2008). At
2 present, all observed Haplomitriopsida species show MLS (*Apotreubia*: Inoue 1960;
3 *Haplomitrium*: Bidartondo et al. 2011; Carafa et al. 2003; Grubb 1970; Hattori and Mizutani
4 1958; Lilienfeld 1911; Stahl 1949; *Treubia*: Bidartondo et al. 2011; Duckett et al. 2006;
5 Goebel 1891). Hence, mycorrhiza-like associations are suggested to be essential for the
6 growth of Haplomitriopsida in nature. It is also suggested that Haplomitriopsida does not
7 depend on Mucoromycotina because analyzed colony of *H. mnioides* from Hachijo-jima Isl.
8 lacked Mucoromycotina but showed MLS with Glomeromycotina (HA: Table 1). Several
9 genes that rescue *Medicago truncatula* Gaertn. mutants for AM formation with *Rhizophagus*
10 *intraradices* (N.C. Schenck & G.S. Sm.) C. Walker & A. Schüßler therefore essential for
11 AM formation have been isolated from *Haplomitrium gibbsiae* (Steph.) R.M. Schust. (Wang
12 et al. 2010). Furthermore, all subgenera constituting *Haplomitrium*, i.e. subg. *Calobryum* and
13 subg. *Haplomitrium* (Stech and Frey 2004), include species that harbour Glomeromycotina
14 mycobionts, i.e. *H. mnioides* and *H. chilensis*, respectively (this study; Ligrone et al. 2007).
15 These suggest that both subgenera in *Haplomitrium* potentially have the ability to form
16 AM-like association with Glomeromycotina. On the other hand, it was reported that 16
17 specimens from 5 species of *Haplomitrium*, including two *H. mnioides* from China,
18 completely lacked Glomeromycotina mycobionts (Rimington et al. 2018). Thus, presence or
19 absence of Glomeromycotina mycobionts in *Haplomitrium* is suggested to be largely
20 dependent on species and locality of sampling. Recent study suggested that Mucoromycotina
21 are more successful in competing with soil microbes for organic N resources than
22 Glomeromycotina (Field et al. 2019). Thus, Mucoromycotina mycobionts might be dominant
23 in the environment rich in organic matter. It should be also considered that phenology affects
24 detection of Glomeromycotina in *H. mnioides* because active fungal-colonized cells are
25 mainly present during its sporophyte development stage (see materials and methods). The

1 absence of Glomeromycotina in *Haplomitrium* reported by Rimington et al. (2018) is
2 presumably more or less affected by those differences of sampling methods.

3 The present research determined that Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae form
4 HS-type MLS on *H. mnioides*. In contrast, they form non-HS-type MLS on several other
5 liverworts in Marchantiopsida and Jungermanniopsida and hornworts (Desirò et al. 2013;
6 Field and Pressel 2018; Field et al. 2015c; Strullu-Derrien et al. 2014). The non-HS-type
7 MLS was considered to be a kind of the fine endophyte (FE), i.e. AM-like structure of
8 Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae (Desirò et al. 2017; Orchard et al. 2017a). Turnau et al.
9 (1999) also illustrated FE as fine arbuscule and hyphae in the thalli of *Conocephalum*
10 *conicum* (L.) Dumort. (Marchantiopsida) and *Pellia endiviifolia* (Dicks.) Dumort.
11 (Jungermanniopsida). The current definition of FE includes vascular plants and non-vascular
12 liverworts and hornworts as hosts (Walker et al. 2018).

13 Mycobionts of HS-type MLS on Haplomitriopsida and FE on other land plants had not
14 been distinguished using molecular phylogeny, rather closely related (Bidartondo et al. 2011;
15 Desirò et al. 2013, 2017). Hyphae of the HS-type MLS and FE shared common
16 characteristics on hosts: (1) numerous hyphae developed at the intercellular space were
17 thick-walled and multi-layered [HS-type: Duckett et al. (2006), Field et al. (2015b); FE:
18 Gianinazzi-Pearson et al. (1981)], (2) two distinct hyphal wall layers were distinguishable by
19 the PATAg test [HS-type: Fig. 10d in Duckett et al. (2006); FE: Gianinazzi-Pearson et al.
20 (1981)], and (3) inter- and intracellular hyphae were up to 5 µm in diameter and the latter
21 formed fine branch [HS-type: this study, Carafa et al. (2003), Duckett et al. (2006), Field et
22 al. (2015b); FE: Błaszowski (2012), Walker et al. (2018)]. In other words, hyphal
23 characteristics of Endogonales-Haplomitriopsida-associated MLS coincide with those of FE.
24 Hence, HS-type MLS is suggested to be a unique type of FE, specially formed on
25 Haplomitriopsida. In addition, we were able to distinguish two HS-types in relation to

1 Endogonales families, finding that the hyphae were thicker and HS was larger in
2 Endogonaceae than in Densosporaceae.

3 Mycobionts of *C. conicum* and *P. endiviifolia* were identified as ALB-type
4 Glomeromycotina (Ligrone et al. 2007). However, those species growing along streams
5 predominantly formed FE (Mucoromycotina) and only 10% of thalli formed ALB-type
6 (Turnau et al. 1999). While colonization rates of Glomeromycotina have been shown to
7 decrease under the flooded treatment as compared with dry conditions (Stevens et al. 2011),
8 FE showed positive responses in colonization rates against waterlogging (Orchard et al.
9 2016). Furthermore, FE has been suggested to have a greater tolerance for physical
10 disturbance than Glomeromycotina (Orchard et al. 2017b). Most species of *Haplomitrium*,
11 including *H. mnioides*, frequently grow on easily eroding damp ground
12 (Bartholomew-Began 1991). Therefore, it is suggested that Endogonales is superior to
13 Glomeromycotina in forming MLS on *Haplomitrium* under such environments. In fact, the
14 number of host cells colonized with Endogonales was much larger than Glomeromycotina in
15 most of the *H. mnioides* samples, with the exception of two (Table S2). The cause of
16 Glomeromycotina-dominance of sample from Hachijo-jima Isl is unclear, however weakly
17 basic (pH=7.32: Oguchi and Sato 2003) ground water springing out just from our sampling
18 site possibly caused an increase in soil pH. Some studies have shown that with increasing pH,
19 colonization by FE decreases (Gucwa-Przepióra et al. 2013; Orchard et al. 2016; Postma et
20 al. 2007; Wang et al. 1985). The surface area of the arbuscule per particular volume is
21 considered to be larger than the HS, therefore the ALB-type MLS was likely structurally
22 more efficient as a nutrient-exchange organ than HS-type. HS is suggested to function in
23 nutrient exchange and storage (Field et al. 2015a, b) and is finally decomposed and absorbed
24 by the host cell (Carafa et al. 2003; Duckett et al. 2006). As different developmental stages
25 of HS are present in a single thallus (Carafa et al. 2003; Duckett et al. 2006; this study), HS

1 may occur repeatedly and develop area of MLS. Storage function of HS is possibly efficient
2 to host plant for survive under difficulty of nutrient absorption from soil via extraradical
3 hyphae. When the soil is disturbed, the extraradical mycelium is possibly cut and the supply
4 of nutrients for host plant temporarily ceases. Therefore, frequent disturbance of the soil
5 environment may confer advantage for Endogonales in the colonization on *Haplomitrium*.

6 Molecular dating analysis estimated that the ages of the most recent common ancestors
7 (MRCA) of Endogonales as 420 million years ago (Mya), and the age of MRCA of
8 Glomeromycotina as 426 Mya (Chang et al. 2018). In other words, Endogonales originated
9 in the mid-late Silurian, contemporary to the origin of Glomeromycotina. This suggests that
10 the establishment of the Endogonales-plant association may have co-occurred around the
11 same time as the AM association, both during the initial colonization of land by plants
12 (Chang et al. 2018). Based on this analysis and the present finding, we provide a hypothesis
13 of how early land plants adapted from the waterside to drier habitats. At the primary stage of
14 plant terrestrialization, ancestral land plants grew on the waterside in association with
15 Endogonales and Glomeromycotina in parallel. With the expansion of habitats and invasion
16 to new environments, host-fungus combinations diverged to suit newly acquired habitats by
17 developing a tolerance against drier conditions. As a result, early extant land plant lineages of
18 liverwort, such as *H. mnioides* have been forced into limited habitats, including under
19 shaded forest condition and waterlogged sites near brooks and streams, by association with
20 primarily HS-type Endogonales (Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae) and secondarily
21 Glomeromycotina. Further studies of dual colonization of Mucoromycotina and
22 Glomeromycotina in *H. mnioides* will give us additional insight into the various selection
23 mechanisms of mycobionts in basal land plants.

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1 Table 1 – Number of rhizome fragments indicating fungal colonizations of Mucoromycotina and Glomeromycotina in each sample.

Sample name	Number examined fragment	Number of rhizome	Number of rhizome fragments observed			Number of rhizome fragments detected following taxa by the sequencing*						
			mycorrhiza-like structure		Arbuscule-like branching type	Mucoromycotina		Glomeromycotina		Co-detections of:		
			Hyphal-swelling type	Large		Small	E	D	G	A	E-G	D-G
KY	30		3	5	4	3	5	1	2	0	1	0
NA	30		0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
IS	15		8	0	4	8	0	1	0	1	0	0
HI	30		3	4	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0
UW	15		14	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
IN	15		0	2	4	0	6	0	1	0	0	1
HA	15		0	0	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0

2 *E, Endogonaceae; D, Densosporaceae; G, Glomerales; A, Archaeosporales.

3

Figure legends

Fig. 1 Gametophyte of *Haplomitrium mnioides* and its mycorrhiza-like structures (MLSs).

(A) Gametophyte showing epigeous leafy shoots and subterranean rhizome, collected from Kyoto. (B) Rhizome of gametophyte collected from Uwajima. Arrows indicate epidermal cells that show pale color due to fungal colonization. (C) Extraradical spore of Glomeromycotina on the rhizome collected from Ino. (D–Q) MLSs identified in mycobionts both by morphology and molecular phylogeny. (D–G) Endogonaceae (D: KY-15; E: IS-14; F: HI-11; G: UW-1). Mature (D, F, G) and young (E) stages are indicated. (H–K) Densosporaceae (H: KY-1; I: KY-17; J: HI-13; K: IN-2). Mature (H, I, K) and young (J) stages are indicated. (H) Hyphae and swellings leaked out from colonized host cell. (L–Q) Glomeromycotina (L: KY-9; M: KY-20; N: IS-11; O: IN-12; P: HA-5; Q: HA-3). Arbuscular MLS (L–P) and intraradical spore (Q). (P) Hyphae extending from colonized cell penetrated host cell wall (arrow) and colonized the adjoining cell. (R) Dual colonization of Densosporaceae and Glomeromycotina (KY-9). Different types of MLSs are present close together on a rhizome. S, hyphal swelling of Endogonaceae and Densosporaceae; A, arbuscule-like structure of Glomeromycotina, T; trunk hyphae of Glomeromycotina. Bars: (A) 3 mm; (B) 1 mm; (C) 100 μm ; (D–R) 20 μm .

Fig. 2 Maximum likelihood (ML) phylogeny of Endogonaceae, Densosporaceae, and Mucoromycotina mycobionts of Haplomitriopsida based on 18S rDNA sequences (dataset 1). Notably, all Mucoromycotina mycobionts of Japanese *H. mnioides* (red; sample name is indicated) and other Haplomitriopsida liverworts (blue: sequenced in Bidartondo et al. (2011) and Field et al. (2015b)) belong to Endogonaceae or Densosporaceae. *Mortierella chlamydospora* (AF157143), *Echinochlamydosporium variabile* (EU688964), and *Calcarisporiella thermophila* (AB597205) were used as outgroup taxa. Bootstrap (BS)

1 values > 50% from ML (left) and maximum parsimony (MP) (center), and Bayesian
 2 posterior probability (PP) > 0.5 (right) are shown near the nodes. Branches supported by
 3 MLBS/MPBS > 70% and PP > 0.95% (black) and MLBS/MPBS > 70% (gray) are depicted
 4 as thick lines. AUS, Australia; JPN, Japan; MEX, Mexico; MYS, Malaysia; NZL, New
 5 Zealand; SCO, Scotland.

6
 7 **Fig. 3** ML phylogeny of Glomeromycotina (Glomerales, Diversisporales, Archaeosporales,
 8 and Paraglomerales) and Glomeromycotina mycobionts of Haplomitriopsida based on 18S
 9 rDNA sequences (dataset 2). Glomeromycotina mycobionts of Japanese *H. mnioides* (red;
 10 sample name is indicated) and *Haplomitrium chilensis* (blue: sequenced in Ligrone et al.
 11 (2007)) belong to Glomerales or Archaeosporales. *Endogone pisiformis* (LC107347) and *M.*
 12 *chlamydospora* (AF157143) were used as outgroup taxa. BS values > 50% from ML (left)
 13 and MP (center), and PP > 0.5 (right) are shown near the nodes. Branches supported by
 14 MLBS/MPBS > 70% and PP > 0.95% (black) and MLBS/MPBS > 70% (gray) are depicted
 15 as thick lines. Sequence name with the initials VTX stand for virtual taxa from MaarjAM.
 16 CHL, Chile.

17
 18 **Fig. 4** Boxplot showing the diameter of hyphal swellings (HS) in Endogonaceae- (n = 258)
 19 and Densosporaceae-identified (n = 530) rhizome fragments. Asterisk shows significance
 20 difference between two families at $P < 0.01$ by the Welch's t-test.

Fig 1

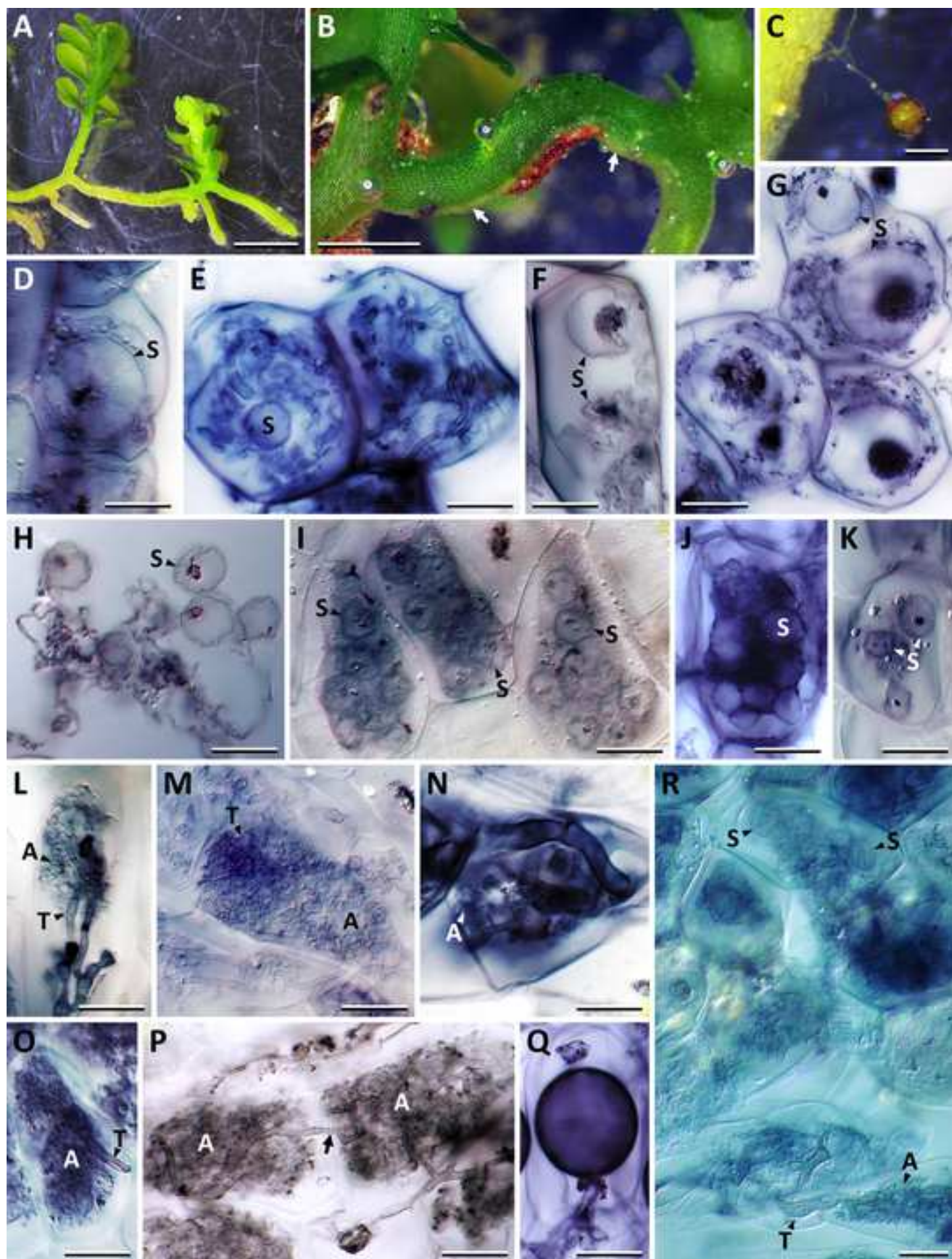


Fig 2



Fig 3

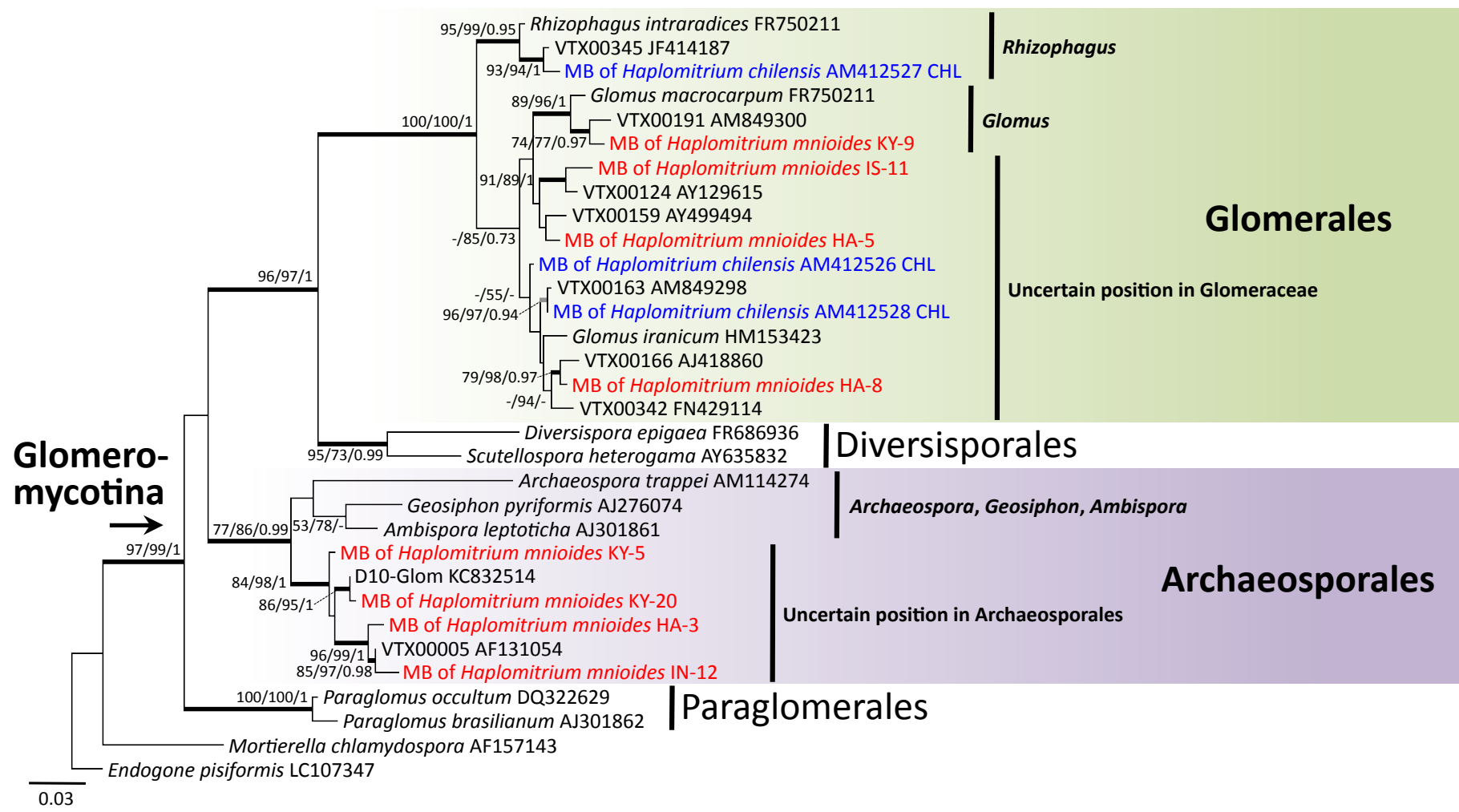


Fig 4

