

Preussia calomera (S.I. Ahmed & Cain) Abdullah & Guarro, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Sporormiella calomera* S.I. Ahmed & Cain, Canad. J. Bot. 50: 435 (1972).

Preussia commutata (Niessl) Abdullah & Guarro, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Sporormiella commutata* Niessl, Oesterr. Bot. Z. 28: 164 (1876).

Preussia herculea (Ellis & Everh.) Abdullah & Guarro, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Sporormia herculea* Ellis & Everh., North American Pyrenomycetes p.135 (1892).

Preussia polymera (Cain) Abdullah & Guarro, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Sporormia polymera* Cain, Canad. J. Bot. 35: 263 (1957).

Rhytidospora cainii Guarro, Mycologia 75: 927 (1983)

Figs. 5, 6

Ascomata scattered, superficial, yellowish orange, non-ostiolate, hairy, globose 180-240 μm diam; peridium pale yellow to light orange, 4-7 μm thick, translucent, membranaceous, consisting of several layers of angular cells; hairs 50-100 \times 3-4.5 μm , septate, yellowish. Asci four-spored, broadly clavate to subglobose, evanescent, thin-walled, unitunicate, 12-20 \times 9-16 μm . Ascospores ellipsoidal 12-14 \times 8-10 μm , olivaceous-brown to dark brown, opaque, ends truncate and each with a germ pore 2 μm diam; wall ornamented with small, uniformly distributed, rounded pits.

Specimen examined: FMR 5986, on camel dung, Jereshan, Southern desert of Iraq, near Basrah province, Iraq. Coll. S.K. Abdullah, June 10, 1996.

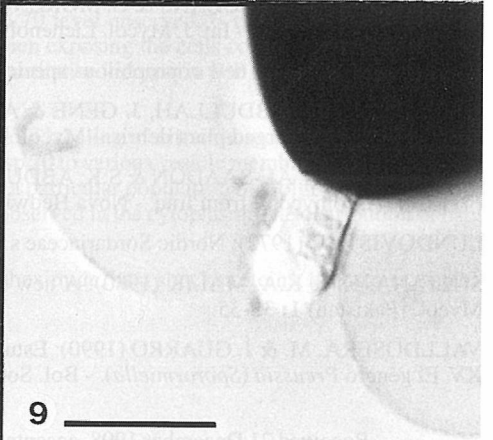
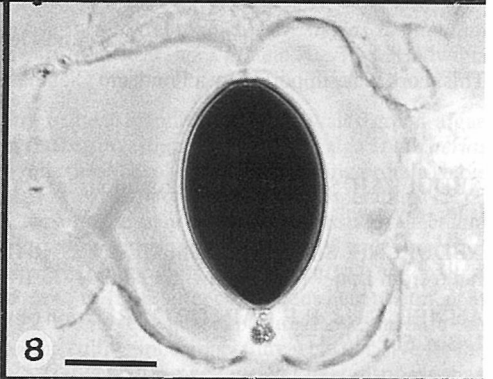
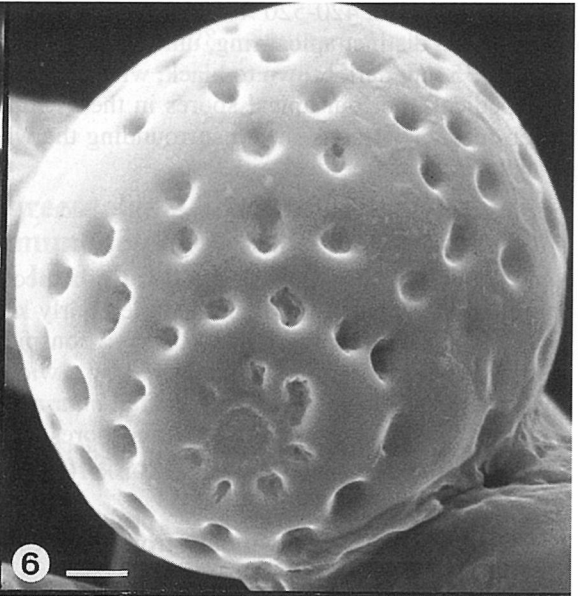
Rhytidospora (Ceratostomataceae) is very close to *Melanospora* Corda and *Persiciospora* P. Cannon & D. Hawksw., but *Melanospora* has smooth ascospores and *Persiciospora* ostiolate ascomata. Up to now only two species of *Rhytidospora* are described, viz. *R. tetraspora* Jeng & Cain, only known from the type isolated in Venezuela, and the present species. Both are strictly coprophilous. The species was originally found on sheep dung in Spain (Guarro, 1983). This is the second report for the species in the world.

Strattonia dissimilis Barrasa, Soláns et Moreno, Int. J. Mycol. Lichenol. 2: 77 (1985)

Figs. 7-9

Ascomata scattered, semi-immersed, pyriform to obpyriform, 1100-1250 \times 520-750 μm ; neck cylindrical, papillate, 300-340 \times 300-325 μm , black; peridium membranaceous, semitransparent, brown. Paraphyses filiform, septate, 4-4.5 μm wide.

Figs. 5, 6. *Rhytidospora cainii*. Fig. 5. Ascospores, bar = 10 μm . Fig. 6. Ascospore, SEM, bar = 1 μm . Figs. 7-9. *Strattonia dissimilis*. Fig. 7. Top of the ascus with immature ascospores, DIC, bar = 10 μm . Fig. 8. Ascospore, phase contrast, bar = 20 μm . Fig. 9. Detail of the lower part of the ascospore, DIC, bar = 10 μm .



Asci eight-spored, 420-520 × 42-50 µm, cylindrical, with truncate apex and a short stipe, with a distinct apical ring, unitunicate. Ascospores uniseriate, ellipsoidal, 45-55 × 27-35 µm, dark brown to black, with a globose to subglobose, hyaline, 8-9 µm long pedicel, the four apical spores in the asci are reversed in relation to the four lower ones. Gelatinous sheath surrounding the whole ascospore, swelling in water, invaginated at the pedicel.

Specimen examined: FMR 5985, on sheep dung, Badra, Wasit, Iraq, Coll. S.K. Abdullah. May 15, 1996.

Lundqvist (1972) recognized two groups of species within *Strattonia* Ciferri as he delimited the genus. One, including the poorly known type species, *S. tetraspora* (Stratton) Ciferri, has asci with a very inconspicuous apical ring, and ascospores with a very small hyaline cell, covered by a wide gelatinous sheath. *S. carbonaria* (W. Phillips & Plowr.) Lundqvist and *S. minor* Lundqvist, on the other hand, have asci with conspicuous apical rings, ascospores with slightly larger hyaline cells, and with a gelatinous sheath or appendages. *Strattonia* should probably be restricted to the first-mentioned species group.

The species is so far known only from the locality on sheep dung collected from Madrid, Spain (Barrasa et al. 1985).

Acknowledgements

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