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Two new localities of Inonotus rickii in Europe

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Budva in Montenegro and Iráklion in Crete are reported as new, and the third and fourth known localities of the rare polypore Inonotus rickii (Pat.) Reid in Europe. It was growing on the living trunks of Celtis australis L. and of Sambucus nigra L., which are new hosts for this polypore.

Key words: Polypores, Inonotus rickii, Celtis australis, Sambucus nigra, Montenegro, Crete

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Jsou uvedeny dvě nové lokality vzácného choroše Inonotus rickii (Pat.) Reid z Budvy v Černé Hoře a z Iráklionu na Krétě, které jsou třetí a čtvrtou známou lokalitou v Evropě. Rostl na živém kmenu břestovce jižního – Celtis australis L. a bezu černého – Sambucus nigra L., což jsou nové hostitelské dřeviny pro tento choroš.

Inonotus rickii (Hymenochaetaceae) has a wide distribution in tropical and subtropical vegetation zones, predominantly outside of Europe. The only two European localities known are Catania and Palermo in Sicily, Italy (Intini 1988, Jaquenoud-Steinlin 1985, Jaquenoud 1987, Ryvarden and Gilbertson 1993).

On July 15, 1976, A. Černý (Brno, Czech Republic) collected the anamorphic state of some polypore at the base of a living trunk of *Celtis australis* L. near the Museum in the town of Budva at Kotor, Montenegro (one of the republics of Federal Yugoslavia). Part of this fungus we sent some years ago to M. Tortić (Zagreb, Croatia). She consulted A. David (Villeurbanne, France) regarding its identity, who suspected that it could be *Inonotus rickii*. The authors of this paper studied one fragment of Černý's collection, received from M. Tortić and it was agreed that it was really *Inonotus rickii* (Pat.) Reid. The exsiccate is preserved in the herbarium of the Mycological Department of the National Museum in Prague (PRM 876830).

The specimen reminded the first author of a collection which he made in the same locality as A. Černý, but about six weeks earlier (4. IV. 1976), and could be identical with *I. rickii*. Fortunatelly, this specimen was preserved as *Inonotus* sp. in the herbarium PRM under no. 872051 and, on the basis of this rather large material – anamorphic as well as teleomorphic – we were firmly able to establish its identity with *I. rickii*.

Whilst this paper was in press we were lucky to find, among unidentified exsiccates of macromycetes from Greece, collected by J. Klán (Prague), nice carpophores (anamorph) of *Inonotus rickii* (Pat.) Reid, which we are publishing here: Island of Crete, Greece, Iráklion (Eraklion), in a town park on the living trunk of *Sambucus nigra*, 14. VIII. 1975, leg. J. Klán, det. 6. 9. 1993 F. Kotlaba and Z. Pouzar (PRM 878625).

It is interesting that Klán's collection of *Inonotus rickii* from Crete in 1975 is the first in Europe because, in Montenegro, it was collected a year later (in 1976) and, in Sicily, as late as 1981 (see Jaquenoud-Steinlin 1985).

MICROFEATURES OF *Inonotus rickii* (PAT.) REID ACCORDING TO THE MATERIAL FROM BUDVA

Generative hyphae are 3.5–5 μm wide, thin-walled to slightly thick-walled (the wall up to 0.5 μm thick), hyaline or pale rusty-yellowish, sparsely branched, septate, clampless.

Tramal setae protrude obliquely from the hymonophore; they are very long, straight, in the distal part somewhat broader then in the basal part, with an acute tip, dark rusty-brown, very thick-walled, 200–430 × 4 μm (in the narrowest part) to 12 μm (in the broadest part).

Hymenial setae are very rare, subulate, acute, thick-walled, rusty-brown, short, about 15 × 5 μm.

Basidia were not seen as the hymenium had collapsed.

Basidiospores are broadly ellipsoid, with one side flattened, thick-walled, yellowish rusty-brown, with a distinctly lateral apiculus, inamyloid, indextrinoid and acyanophilous, 7–8(–9) × 5–6(6.5) μm.

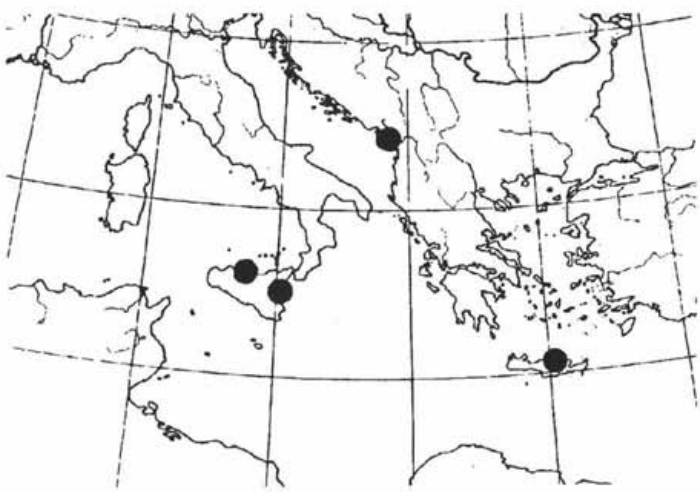
Chlamydospores are very thick-walled (up to 2 μm thick), yellowish rusty to dark rusty-brown, varying in shape, usually broadly ovoid, slightly citriform to almost globose, sometimes with remnants of hyphoid processus up to 15 × 4.5 μm on the base (rarely also on both poles) which is central and abruptly cut, 9.5–23 × 8.5–14 μm.

Both of the above-mentioned specimens of *Inonotus rickii* were collected at the base of living trunks of *Celtis australis* L. (*Ulmaceae*), on which tree this polypore does not previously appear to have been reported. Gilbertson and Ryvarden (1986) gave *Casuarina, Cercidium, Myrica* and *Quercus* as hosts of *I. rickii* in North America. As the earlier known host trees in Europe were *Parkinsonia* and *Schinus molle* (Sicily), *Celtis australis* from Budva (Montenegro) and *Sambucus nigra* from Iráklion (Crete), therefore appear to be new hosts for this remarkable polypore.

The locality of *Inonotus rickii* in Budva is now the most northern in Europe as it lies on about 42°45′ N whereas the locality in Iráklion 35°20′ is the southernmost occurrence, currently known, of this polypore in Europe.

All four European localities of *Inonotus rickii* are not (as with many other polypores) in natural forests, but are exclusively in human settlements on cultivated trees. The hitherto known distribution in Europe leads to the conclusion that this fungus has a markedly synanthropic character of distribution in Europe and that it has been introduced there from some tropical or subtropical country (perhaps from India).

Inonotus rickii bears features in all cases of a true parasite, at least in Europe.



Distribution map of *Inonotus rickii* (Pat.) Reid in Mediterranean Europe.

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