

Stegopeziza dumeti (Sacc. & Spcg.) comb.nov. (Fig. 32)

Stegia dumeti Sacc. & Spcg., *Michelia* 1: 420 (1877).

Apothecia scattered to gregarious, sessile, erumpent, developing beneath the epidermis and covered initially by a raised circular patch which is later shed as a scale to expose the disk. *Disk* circular to elliptic, 0.4–0.6 μm diam, plano-concave, amber-brown, surrounded by a broad, slightly raised margin. *Receptacle* saucer-shaped, broadly attached, covered by a whitish pruina. *Asci* 42–50 \times 3.5–4 μm , narrowly cylindrical-

clavate, apex rounded, minute pore stained blue by Melzer's reagent, 8-spored. *Ascospores* 4.7–5.8 \times 1.2–1.4 μm , clavate, hyaline, non-septate, biseriata. *Paraphyses* lanceolate, pointed, 1- or 2-septate, 3.5–4 μm wide, exceeding the asci by 12–15 μm . *Ectal excipulum* composed of thin-walled, pale brown angular cells 8–10 \times 4–5 μm in the lower part, arranged on the flanks in parallel, radiating rows, forming free hair-like extensions up to 30 \times 5 μm on the flanks and margin, encrusted by scattered lumps of irregular resinous or crystalline matter.

Specimens examined: On dead stems of *Rubus fruticosus*, Coughton Park, Warwickshire, 28 Mar.

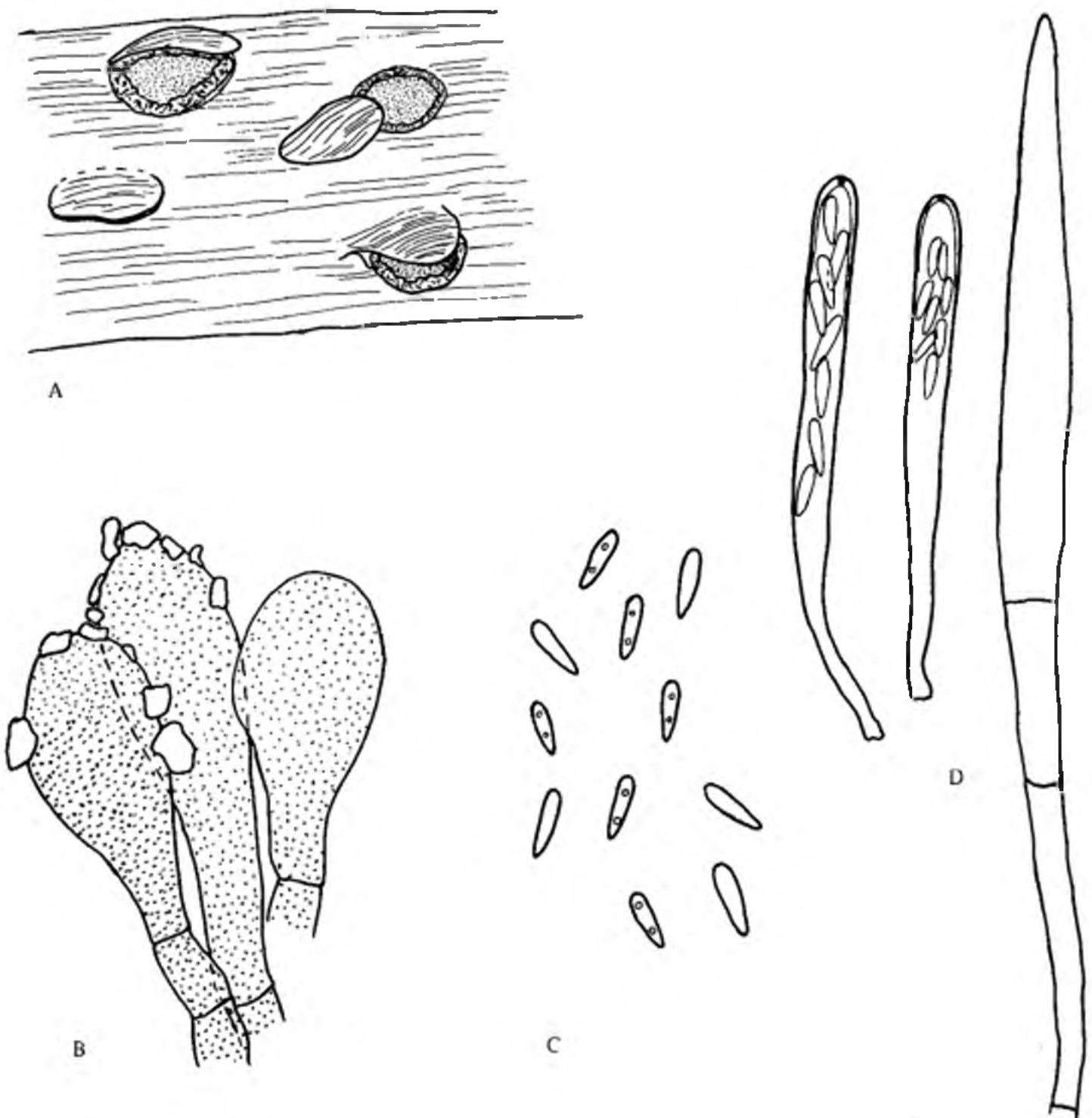


Fig. 33. *Stegopeziza quercea* (W. D. Graddon 3528). (A) Habit \times 12; (B) hairs \times 1200; (C) ascospores \times 1200; (D) asci and paraphyses \times 1200.

1979, M. C. Clark 2193; Bannams Wood, Warwicks., 4 May 1979, M. C. Clark; Austwick, Yorkshire, 11 May 1979, M. C. Clark & W. D. Graddon; Dent Dale, Yorks., 13 May 1979, W. D. Graddon 3504; Bellano, Italy, Oct. 1878, Spegazzini.

Stegopeziza is characterized by subepidermal development of the ascocarp, granularly roughened hairs, lanceolate paraphyses and tiny clavate ascospores, and has hitherto been considered monotypic. Sutton & Pirozynski (1963) have provided a useful description and illustration of *S. lauri* (Caldesi) Hohn., from which it is obvious that the present and following species are remarkably similar and clearly congeneric. *Stegopeziza dumeti* differs in possessing longer, narrower asci, shorter, narrower paraphyses, and in type of crystal development on the hairs.

***Stegopeziza quercea* (Fautrey & Lambotte) comb.nov. (Fig. 33)**

Stegia quercea Fautrey & Lambotte, *Rev. Myc.* 1896: 144 (1896).

Apothecia scattered to gregarious, sessile, subepidermal in development, exposed by shedding of a circular epidermal scale. *Disk* 0.8–1.2 mm diam, plano-concave, dark. Margin broad, slightly raised, matted tomentose, dark brown. *Asci* 50–60 × 4 µm, narrowly cylindrical-clavate, apex rounded, pore blue by Melzer's reagent, 8-spored. *Ascospores* 4.5–7 × 1–1.8 µm, clavate, hyaline, non-septate, biseriolate. *Paraphyses* broadly lanceolate, pointed, septate, 4.5–7 µm diam, exceeding the asci by about 40 µm. Ectal excipulum parenchymatous, rows of cells running out at the surface to produce clavate, pale brown hairs up to 50 × 15 µm, encrusted apically by irregular crystalline masses.

Specimen examined: On suckers of *Quercus*, Gregynog Woods, near Newtown, Mont., 25 May 1979, W. D. Graddon 3528.

Although the type, which I have not seen, was on leaves of *Quercus rubra*, the original description is useful, mentioning the epidermal scale shed at maturity, pointed paraphyses which surpass the asci, and spores of exactly the same size. It seems unlikely that two such similar species could occur on *Quercus*, and I do not hesitate in referring the Welsh collection there.

The three species are unquestionably similar, but it would appear that *S. quercea* is distinct from *S. lauri* in larger asci and broadly inflated hairs and from *S. dumeti* in larger, broader paraphyses and inflated hairs.

***Svrcekomyces pallidus* sp.nov. (Fig. 34)**

Apothecia solitaria, in solo humido subsessilia. *Discus* plano-convexus, medio depresso, usque 2 cm diam, statu vivo albidus, siccitate sordide albus brunneo-maculatus. *Receptaculum* ita reflexum ut margo ad substratum attinget, concolor, hyphis laxis stabilisantibus obtectum, stipite brevi, crasso, medifixo, usque 2.5 × 3.4 mm, plerumque in solo immerso. *Asci* 280–315 × 14–16 µm, cylindrico-clavati, muris tenuibus, superne rotundati, iodo non caerulescentes, octospori. *Ascospori* 17–21 × 8.5–9.5 µm, ellipsoidei, hyalini, biguttulati, verruculis costisque valde cyanophilis irregularibus, 0.5–3 µm diam, 1–2 µm altis, polaribus, majoribus, ornati. *Paraphyses* simplices, 2.5 µm diam, apicales usque 4–5 µm. *Excipulum* ectale e strato exteriori 30–50 µm crasso ex hyphis undulatis, hyalinis, muris tenuibus, 3–4 µm diam, sistente in zonam parenchymaticam usque 200 µm altam e cellulis magnis subglobosis, muris tenuibus, usque 40 µm diam, superposita sistens. *Caro* ex hyphis hyalinis intertextis 3–4 µm diam sistens, subhymenio 50–60 µm alto e cellulis 8–20 µm diam sistens subjacens.

Apothecia solitary, growing on wet soil, subsessile. *Disk* plano-convex, centrally depressed, up to 2 cm diam, white or whitish when fresh, fading to dirty white with brownish patches on drying, smooth. *Receptacle* somewhat reflexed so that the margin touches the soil surface, concolorous, somewhat tomentose with loose anchoring hyphae, and centrally seated on a short stout stipe in the soil. *Asci* 280–315 × 14–16 µm, cylindrical-clavate, thin-walled, rounded above, not staining blue in Melzer's reagent, 8-spored. *Ascospores* 17–21 × 8.5–9.5 µm, ellipsoid, hyaline, biguttulate, ornamented with strongly cyanophilic irregular warts and ridges 0.5–3 µm wide, 1–2 µm high, always larger and more conspicuous at the poles. *Paraphyses* simple, septate, 2.5 µm diam, enlarged to 4.5–5.5 µm at the apex. *Ectal excipulum* composed of an outermost layer 30–50 µm deep, of undulating thin-walled hyaline hyphae 3–4 µm diam, overlaying a parenchymatous zone up to 200 µm deep of large, thin-walled hyaline, subglobose cells up to 40 µm diam. *Medullary excipulum* 300–350 µm deep, of interwoven hyaline hyphae 3–4 µm diam, underlying a subhymenial layer 50–60 µm deep of cells 8–20 µm diam. *Hymenium* 300 µm deep.

Specimen examined: On very wet bare soil amongst hepatics, under *Alnus*, Hodders Combe, Quantocks, Somerset, Oct. 1976, K, holotype.

The genus *Svrcekomyces* was established by Moravec (1976) for a single species, *S. guldeniae* (Svrček) J. Moravec, and is characterized by large, fleshy apothecia which lack carotenoids, hyaline, ellipsoid ascospores which bear a strong cyanophilic ornament, iodine-negative asci and a dis-