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[Crittendenia](#) Diederich, Millanes, M. Westb., Etayo, J.C. Zamora & Wedin

[Crittendenia](#) was introduced by Millanes et al (2021) and typified by [Crittendenia coppinsii](#) Diederich, Millanes, M. Westb., Etayo, J.C. Zamora & Wedin. It was isolated from *Parmelia glabratula* in the UK. Morphological characteristics and phylogenetic analysis based on SSU, LSU, and ITS gene regions placed this genus in an uncertain position in [Agaricostilbomyces](#), [Pucciniomycotina](#) [Basidiomycota](#), and showed the lichenicolous members of *Chionosphaera* form a monophyletic group in the [Pucciniomycotina](#), distant from *Chionosphaera* and outside the *Chionosphaeraceae*. The new genus [Crittendenia](#) was described to accommodate these lichen-inhabiting species. [Crittendenia](#) is different from *Chionosphaera* and is predominantly a lichen-dwelling genus in *Agaricostilbales* ([Pucciniomycotina](#)). [Chionosphaera coppinsii](#) Diederich and *C. lichenicola* Diederich are two known species that grow on lichen hosts (Millanes et al, 2021). [Crittendenia](#) is characterized by apical, tubular, aseptate, thin-walled basidia, with basal clamps that form 4–7 spores discharged passively in groups. Basidiomata on lichens, stipitate-capitate, synnemata-like, fleshy waxy, pale, slightly translucent. The capitulum is slightly too strongly differentiated and enlarged, the sterigmata fall after the spore is detached. Basidiospores are hyaline, aspartate, ovoid to fusiform, with a small basal apiculus, often indistinct, without obligate discharge, often released in clusters of 4-7 spores together. Basidiospores are probably able to germinate by budding. The asexual morph is unknown in this genus (Millanes et al, 2021).

Reference

Millanes AM, Diederich P, Westberg M, Wedin M. 2021 – *Crittendenia* gen. nov, a new lichenicolous lineage in the *Agaricostilbomyces* (*Pucciniomycotina*), and a review of the biology, phylogeny, and classification of lichenicolous *heterobasidiomycetes*. The Lichenologist 53(1). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S002428292000033X>

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