## Outlineoffungi.org - Note 958 Villophora

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## Villophora Søchting, Arup & Frödén

Arup et al. (2013) established the genus Villophora (subfamily Teloschistoideae) to accommodate Villophora isidioclada Søchting, Arup & Frödén which was originally placed in Caloplaca. Kondratyuk et al. (2015) combined Placodium microphyllinum under Villophora. Wilk et al. (2021) transferred Tayloriellina erythrosticta to Villophora based on SSU sequences that showed a non-Teloschistaceae origin. Both Tayloriellina erythrosticta and Villophora microphyllina were also sister species in the three locus phylogenetic analyses (Søchting et al. 2021). Thus, these two genera were assumed to belong to the same genus, either Villophora or Tayloriellina and subsequently Villophora microphyllina was transferred to Tayloriellina. Søchting et al. (2021) added five new Villophora species including V. darwiniana, V. onas, V. patagonica, V. rimicola and V. wallaceana and the authors transferred Raesaeneniana maulensis to Villophora maulensis based on SSU sequences. The taxa are reported as lichenicolous or saxicolous lichens on rock, wood, or tree bark and are distributed in Antarctica, Australia, North America and South America with the highest diversity found in the Southern Hemisphere (Søchting et al. 2021). The members are characterized by a crustose to microfruticose thallus, consisting of squamules or granules that can be appressed and flattened but are often more or less vertical, isidioid with blastidia or soredia. Apothecia are often rare, zeorine, occasionally with an isidiate thalline margin, a teloschistes-type, with 8-spored asci, polar bilocular ascospores, with chlorococcoid algae as the photobiont and lacking pycnidia (Søchting et al. 2021). The taxonomic placement of Villophora is in Teloschistaceae, Teloschistales, Lecanoromycetidae, Lecanoromycetes, Pezizomycotina and Ascomycota.

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