

## Outlineoffungi.org - Note 1085 *Densorhytisma*

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***Densorhytisma*** C.L. Hou, Q.T. Wang & P.F. Cannon

Wang et al. (2023) introduced *Densorhytisma* under *Rhytismataceae* to accommodate two species based on morphology and phylogenetic analyses using LSU and SSU sequence data. This genus was typified by *Densorhytisma huangshanense* (C.L. Hou & M.M. Wang) C.L. Hou, Q.T. Wang & P.F. Cannon. Another species is *Densorhytisma anhuiense* (C.L. Hou & M. Piepenbr.) C.L. Hou, Q.T. Wang & P.F. Cannon. The type species was isolated from *Rhododendron simsii* as a parasite in China. Only sexual morph has been observed. In the sexual morph, ascomata open by a longitudinal split or irregular splits. Lips are not present. Paraphyses are filiform, unbranched, and curved at the apex. Ascospores are narrowly clavate to filiform, often curved, and lack gelatinous sheaths. *Densorhytisma* formed a sister clade with two genera *Fanglania* and *Johnstoniella* based on phylogenetic analyses using LSU and SSU sequence data. The *Shiqia* species are parasites that infect deciduous *Rhododendron* species, whereas the *Densorhytisma* species infect semi-evergreen *Rhododendron* species. Despite their similar ecological roles, these species are distantly related. Furthermore, there are differences in the morphological characteristics of the stromata between the two genera. While the stromata of *Shiqia* spp. appear as large spots, those of *Densorhytisma* are small and densely developed on a leaf. Based on the host plants, stromata features, and characteristics of the ascomata, there is a strong indication that this specimen warrants classification as another species within the *Densorhytisma*. However, further collection of specimens is necessary to conclusively verify its taxonomic classification. (Wang et al., 2023).

### Reference

Wang QT, Guo MJ, Lv T, Zhou H et al. 2023 – Phylogeny and taxonomy of *Rhytisma*-like species worldwide. *Fungal Diversity* 120(1), 77–119.

### Entry by

**Maryam Tavakol Noorabadi**, Innovative Institute for Plant Health, Zhongkai University of Agriculture and Engineering, Guangzhou 510225, People's Republic of China

Published online 7 May 2024