

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 1217 *Erysiphacites*

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Erysiphacites V.D. Kapgate ex R.K. Saxena, V.D. Kapgate & P.K. Kirk

Kapgate (2016) introduced *Erysiphacites* (fossil *Ascomycota*) within *Erysiphaceae* (*Leotiomyces*, *Ascomycota*) to describe a new species based on morphological analyses of a fossil specimen found in India. This monotypic genus was typified by *E. nambudirii* V.D. Kapgate ex R.K. Saxena, V.D. Kapgate & P.K. Kirk. However, the genus and species names were invalidly published by Kapgate (2016). Later, records and identifiers were created to validate the fossil specimen by Saxena et al. (2023). Morphologically, mainly due to its slender unbranched, unicellular conidiophores consisting of a basal cell and short terminal generative cell, this fossil genus is comparable with *Erysiphe*. Differences with *Phyllactinia* and *Sphaeroteca* arise from these latter genera having globular conidiophores. *Erysiphacites* was found on pieces of petrified cherts from the Late Cretaceous (Nambudiri & Chitaley 1991, Kapgate 2016), and using modern ecological requirements as a paleoecological and climatological analog could be possible for the fossil species to be a non-aquatic-obligatory-parasite-on a wide range of angiosperms and several herbaceous plants, probably under mild weather conditions (Nguyen et al. 2016, Pölme et al. 2020, Hsiao et al. 2022).

References

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