

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 1347 *Aptrootidea*

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Aptrootidea Xavier-Leite, M. Cáceres & Lücking

Xavier-Leite et al. (2023) introduced *Aptrootidea* under *Gomphillaceae* (*Graphidales*, *Ostropomycetidae*, *Lecanoromycetes*, *Pezizomycotina*, *Ascomycota*) to accommodate six lichenized fungal species based on morphological characters and phylogeny using the combined LSU and SSU sequence data. This genus was typified by *Aptrootidea marginata* (Lücking) Xavier-Leite, M. Cáceres & Lücking. In *Aptrootidea*, the thallus is foliicolous, either continuous or dispersed, with an uneven to verrucose texture, and may have short, dark setae that typically grow on a translucent prothallus. The apothecia are adnate (or erumpent), appearing spot-like, with a chocolate-brown to brown-black disc and lacking a proper margin, although the type species may have a thin thalline margin. The excipulum consists of hyphae. The hypothecium is prosoplectenchymatous and pale. The epithecium is dark brown. Ascospores show varying degrees of septation. The hyphophores have not been observed. The defined genus is likely to be heterogeneous, comprising the type species (the only species with a known sequence) and a group of five other species believed to be closely related to the type based on phylogenetic analysis. *Echinoplaca marginata* was already distinguished from other *Echinoplaca* species upon its initial description, hence its distinct placement in the molecular phylogeny was not unexpected. The inclusion of the other five species here is tentative, based on the phylogenetic analysis. These species were previously identified as a separate group by Lücking et al. (2005) through a cladistic study and may potentially represent a distinct genus, although none of them have been sequenced yet. *Aptrootia triseptata* also shares some similarities with species currently classified under the genus *Verruciplaca* (Xavier-Leite et al. 2023).

References

- Lücking R, Sérusiaux E, Vězda A. 2005 – Phylogeny and systematics of the lichen family *Gomphillaceae* (*Ostropales*) inferred from cladistic analysis of phenotype data. *The Lichenologist* 37(2), 123–170.
- Xavier-Leite AB, Goto BT, Lücking R, da Silva Cáceres ME. 2023 – New genera in the lichenized family *Gomphillaceae* (*Ascomycota*: *Graphidales*) focusing on neotropical taxa. *Mycological Progress* 22(12), 88.

Entry by

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

(Edited by **Subodini N. Wijesinghe**)

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