

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 660 *Helmutiopsis*

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Helmutiopsis S.Y. Kondr., Lökös & Hur

The genus includes three species, *Helmutiopsis alba* (Metzler ex Arnold) S.Y. Kondr., Lökös & Hur, *H. aspersa* (Borrer) S.Y. Kondr., Lökös & Hur and *H. atrocinerea* (Fr.) S.Y. Kondr., Lökös & Hur (type species), previously placed in *Rinodina* (Ach.) Gray. The genus *Rinodina* itself is polyphyletic, as demonstrated previously also by [Nadyeina et al. \(2010\)](#), and two species used in the phylogeny, *H. alba* and *H. atrocinerea*, form monophyletic, well supported clade in phylogeny based on nuITS and mtSSU markers. The clade is close to *Physcia* s.l., but this placement is with low support ([Kondratyuk et al. 2021](#)). All *Helmutiopsis* species are lichenized fungi growing on rocks, with crustose thalli (one species is sorediate), lecanorine apothecia, *Lecanora*-type ascus, *Pachysporaria*-type ascospores, and all produce atranorin and gyrophoric acid with related substances (Sheard 2010, [Nimis 2022](#)). Although the relationships of clades in the phylogeny presented by [Kondratyuk et al. \(2021\)](#) did not receive much support, the distinction of *Helmutiopsis* seems to be justified by the combination of morphological and chemical features. The taxonomic placement of the genus is in *Physciaceae* (*Caliciales*, *Lecanoromycetes*).

References

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- Nadyeina O, Grube M, Mayrhofer H. 2010 – A contribution to the taxonomy of the genus *Rinodina* (*Physciaceae*, lichenized *Ascomycotina*) using combined ITS and mtSSU rDNA data. *Lichenologist* 42(5), 521–531. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0024282910000186>
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