

## Outlineoffungi.org - Note 664 *Klauskalbia*

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***Klauskalbia*** S.Y. Kondr., Lökös, Farkas & J.-S. Hur

Based on analysis of combined nuITS and mtSSU sequence data, [Kondratyuk et al. \(2021\)](#) introduced *Klauskalbia* to accommodate the broad-lobed *Heterodermia* species with red pigment on the lower surface. Four species are attributed to the new genus. The genus is distributed almost world-wide and occurs on rock, bark, wood and mosses from lowland tropics to temperate regions. There are however a number of issues. First, in the text and table of sequences, two species are said to have been sequenced (“the position of two of the four species...are [sic] confirmed in the phylogeny [sic] analyses”), but only one is shown in the cladogram. There are recent papers on this group, which do not even accept the previous split genera in *Heterodermia*, mainly because with elaborated sampling they turn out to be ill-based. [Souza et al. \(2022\)](#) give a phylogenetic trees of *Heterodermia* s. lat. Showing that none of the previous split genera is monophyletic, and neither is the group of species that was raised to genus level as *Klauskalbia*. Even worse, Cannon et al. (2022) conclude (“two samples from the UK have been placed in the *H. japonica* group and not in the *H. obscurata* aggregate”) that the British material currently called *Heterodermia obscurata* (the type species of *Klauskalbia*), indeed shows all key characters of that species but phylogenetically clusters with another species that is in another split genus if accepted (viz. *Polysporidium*). Even [Kondratyuk et al. \(2021\)](#) do show the split genus *Polysporidium* to be polyphyletic in different branches, and their other monophyletic groups are not well-supported. For all these reasons, it makes little sense to accept split genera in *Heterodermia*, and the acceptance of *Klauskalbia* only causes problems, because it has already been shown that species with the given characters do not form a monophyletic group. The taxonomic placement of *Klauskalbia* is in *Physciaceae* (*Teloschistales*, *Lecanoromycetes*) ([Kondratyuk et al. 2021](#)).

### References

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