

A NOTE ON
RHIPILIA NIGRESCENS COPPEJANS & PRUD'HOMME VAN REINE
(CHLOROPHYTA)

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In our paper on seaweeds of the Snellius-II expedition (Coppejans & Prud'homme van Reine, 1989) we suggested that the new species *Rhipilia nigrescens* had been described in *Phycologia*. Due to regulations of that journal and corroborated by the short spell between acceptance and publication in *Blumea*, the Latin description can no longer be expected to be published as suggested. To validate the name of the new species a Latin description and a designation of the holotype is published here.

***Rhipilia nigrescens* Coppejans & Prud'homme van Reine**

For figures and a description in English see Coppejans & Prud'homme van Reine (1989) 131, plate 5.

Latin description: Plantae erectae generaliter gregariae clavatae, rarioriter solitariae turbinatae pelatae infundibuliformis vel flabellatae, sed etiam tum crassae spongiosae nunquam translucentes, nunquam zonatae (1–)2(–5) cm alta, diametro secundum habitum, saepe distaliter anastomosantes, obscura viride-brunnescens, atro-viridescens in sicco etiam chartam bibulam brunneo colorantes. Siphones cylindrici dense intertexti (35–)40–50(–60) μm diam., principalibus dichotome ramosis, supra bivium constrictis (rarioriter infra bivium vel intercalariter), numerosis sympodialiter positus ramulis lateralibus (75–)250–400(–750) μm longis, rare ramosis, ad basin generaliter non constrictis et ad apices tenaculatis. Tenacula (2 vel 3) 4 vel 5 (vel 6)-fida. A *Rhipiliarum* speciebus ceteris tenaculis numerosis, charta colorenti differt. — H o l o t y p u s: From Tukang Besi Is., W coast of Binongko, coastal reef, slope, c. 20 m deep, *SN 10285A*, the specimen depicted as fig. 1 in plate 5 in Coppejans & Prud'homme van Reine (l.c.). All other specimens of this taxon in *SN 10285A* (in L) and *SN 10285Ea* (in GENT) are isotypes.

Rhipilia nigrescens differs from all other *Rhipilia* species in the frequent occurrence of more than three prongs on the tenacula and in the staining of the paper by drying specimens. Its spongy habit and gregarious nature are also characteristic features.

In their description of the genus *Rhipilia* Gepp & Gepp (1911) give a general number of 2–6 prongs, without specifying this for the three species they record. For *R. orientalis*, a species that probably is closely related to *R. nigrescens*, they depicted in their fig. 136 a reticulum with 2–3-pronged tenacula (in fig. 136c, however, they

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also show a 5-pronged one) and in their fig. 135 (from the same specimen, but nearer to the margin) they figure a frequent occurrence of 4–5-pronged tenacula. In our study of the type material (especially the specimens drawn by Gepp & Gepp, we consider the largest plant of their fig. 135 to be the lectotype) we found almost no 4–5-pronged tenacula; the majority of the tenacula are 2–3-pronged in this material. In other specimens of *R. orientalis* studied by us (compare our figs. 2–18 in plate 5 of our 1989 paper) we only occasionally detected a 4-pronged tenaculum (fig. 5 and fig. 14). Other characters, i. e. filament diameter, branching pattern of filaments, and length of branchlets, vary strongly from one plant to another for both species studied. Therefore, these characters cannot be used for taxonomic differentiation within this complex.

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REFERENCES

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