ON CORTICIUM UDICOLA BOURD.*

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(With two Text-figures)

One of the fungi with very variable basidia is *Corticium udicola* Bourd., showing in the same basidiocarp all stages between sessile clavate basidia, podo- and pleurobasidia. Interesting features are the large sterigmata — not often found in species of Corticiaceae — and the amyloid spores. For this species Hauerslev (1974) created the monotypic genus *Melzericium*, based on his own collection from Sweden. A stay at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris gave the opportunity to study all the specimens of *Corticium udicola*. Soon it was evident that the collections contained two different but closely related species, one of which agreed very well with the descriptions given by Bourdot (1910) and Bourdot & Galzin (1928). The second species is characterized by a deviating shape of the spores which is rather unique in the Corticiaceae. The first and obviously more common species is at the same time identical with Hauerslev's specimen from Sweden. For the second species no name is available. It is, as far as I know, in France only represented by its type specimen, but is also found in North Sweden (Strid, 1975; sub *Melzericium udicola*).

Corticium udicola was one of the first species which Bourdot described. Since he was the most important promotor of our knowledge of the Corticiaceae, I find it appropriate to name the second species after him.

MELZERICIUM UDICOLA (Bourd.) Hauerslev—Fig. 1

Corticium udicola Bourd *in* Rev. scient. Bourbonn. **23**: 10. 1910. — *Melzericium udicola* (Bourd.) Hauerslev *in* Friesia **10**: 316. 1975.

Basidiocarp resupinate, effused, often only a few mm large, rarely confluent to larger patches, 50–150 μm thick, membranaceous, adnate, separable in small pieces, context homogeneous; hymenial surface cream coloured, even, not cracked when dry; margin concolorous or whitish, indeterminate, thinning out, rhizomorphs or hyphal strands lacking. Hyphae hyaline, cylindrical to torulose, loosely arranged, branching from or near the clamps, 2–4 μm in diameter, some inflated up to 6 μm,

* This study was supported by the C. N. R. S. Paris, through intermediary of the Netherlands Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (Z. W. O.).

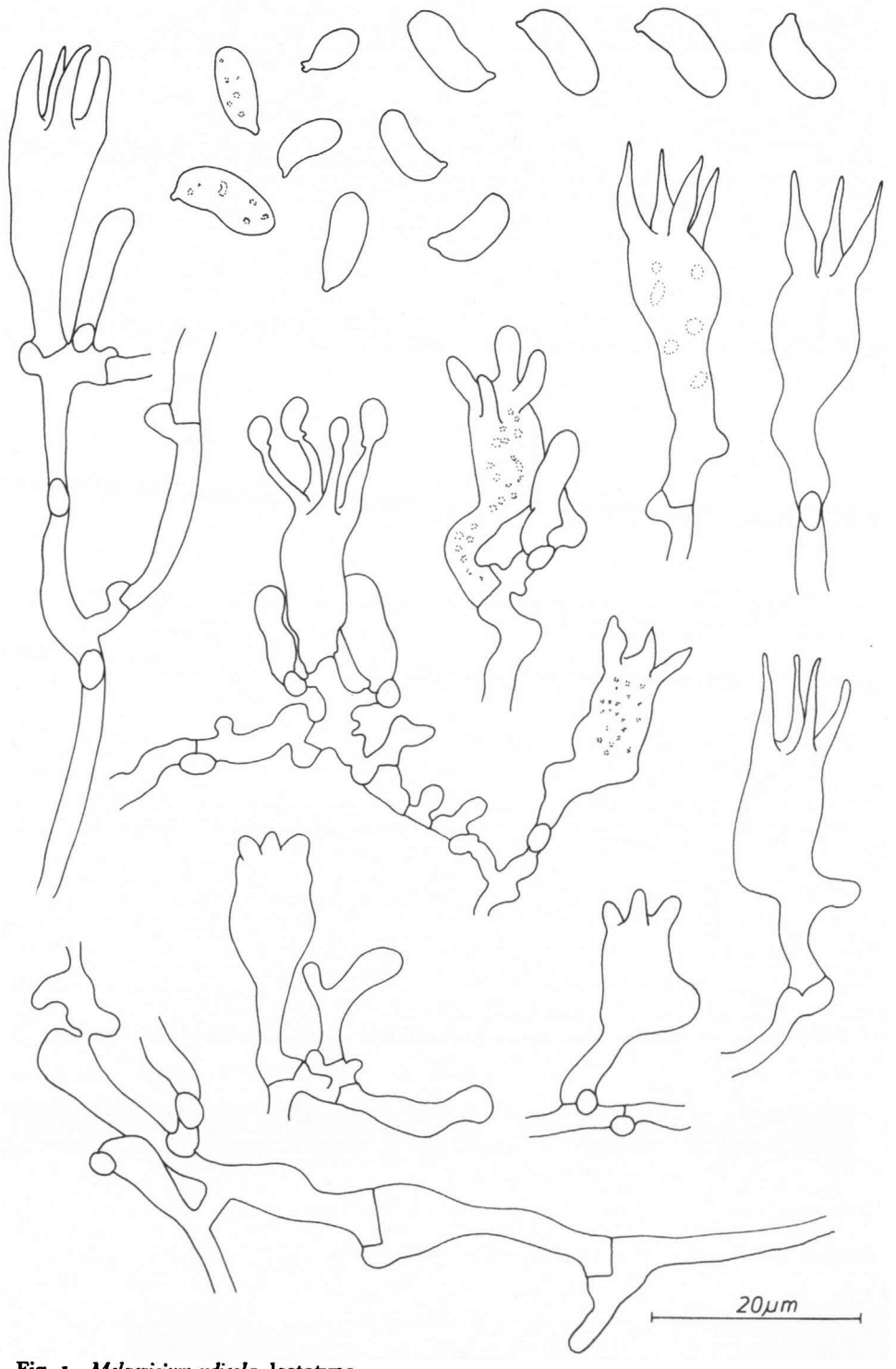

Fig. 1. *Melzericium udicola*, lectotype.

thin walled or the basal ones slightly thick-walled, with smooth surface, clamps present, contents homogeneous. Cystidia lacking. Basidia often stalked (podobasidia), some pleurobasidioid, hyaline, clavate when mature, flexuous-cylindrical when young, 20–25×6.5–7 μm, thin-walled, smooth, a basal clamp present, contents homogeneous or slightly guttulate; with four large sterigmata (8–10×1.5–2.5 μm). Spores hyaline, curved cylindrical, with distinct apiculus, 8–10×3–4 μm, thin-walled, smooth, contents homogeneous or slightly guttulate. amyloid, not dextrinoid or cyanophilous.

MATERIAL STUDIED.—FRANCE: Tarn, Marais de Frègefont, –.9.1909, *Galzin 4543 (Bourdot 6778)* (lectotype, PC); –.9.1909 *Galzin 4926 (Bourdot 69894)*; 5.9.1909, *Galzin 4528 (Bourdot 6767)* (PC); 26.9.1909, *Galzin 4839, 4890 (Bourdot 6841)* (PC); 5.9.1909, *Galzin 4544 (Bourdot 6770)*.

Melzericium bourdotii Jülich, *spec. nov.*—Fig. 2

Carposoma resupinatum, effusum, membranaceum, cremeum, adhaerens; rhizomorphae desunt; hymenium laeve. Systema hypharum monomiticum. Hyphae distinctae, plus minusve tenui-tunicatae, cylindricae vel torulosae, interdum inflatae, 2–4 μmin diam., semper fibulatae. Cystidia desunt. Basidia saepe podobasidia nonnumquam pleurobasidia, clavata, 15–20×5–6 μm, fibulata, tetraspora. Sporae hyalinae, ellipsoideae, constrictae tenui-tunicatae, amyloideae. — Typus: 'Tarn, Marais de Frègefont, sur Marsaule, 26.10.1909, *Galzin 4834 (Bourdot 6990)* (PC).

Basidiocarp resupinate, effused, often only a few mm large, rarely confluent to larger patches, 50–150 μm thick, membranaceous loosely adnate, spearable in small pieces, context homogeneous; hymenial surface cream-coloured, even, not cracked when dry; margin concolorous or whitish, indeterminate, thinning out, rhizomorphs or hyphal strands lacking. Hyphal system monomitic. Hyphae hyaline, cylindrical to somewhat torulose, some inflated, loosely arranged, branching from clamps or opposite to these, 2–4 μm in diameter, inflated up to 8 μm, thin-walled in the subhymenium, thin- to slightly thick-walled in the trama, with smooth surface, clamps present, contents homogeneous or slightly guttulate. Cystidia lacking. Basidia often stalked (podobasidia) or like pleurobasidia, hyaline, clavate when mature, flexuous-cylindrical when young, 15–20×5–6 μm, thin-walled, smooth, a basal clamp present, contents homogeneous or guttulate; with four large sterigmata *c.* 5–8×2–2.5 μm. Spores hyaline, ellipsoid, distinctly constricted in the middle (like a dumb-bell), with small apiculus, 8–10.5×4–5 μm, not glued together, thin-walled, smooth, contents homogeneous or somewhat guttulate, amyloid, not dextrinoid or cyanophilous.

DISTRIBUTION.—Known from the type-collection in France and from one specimen of North Sweden (Strid, 1975).

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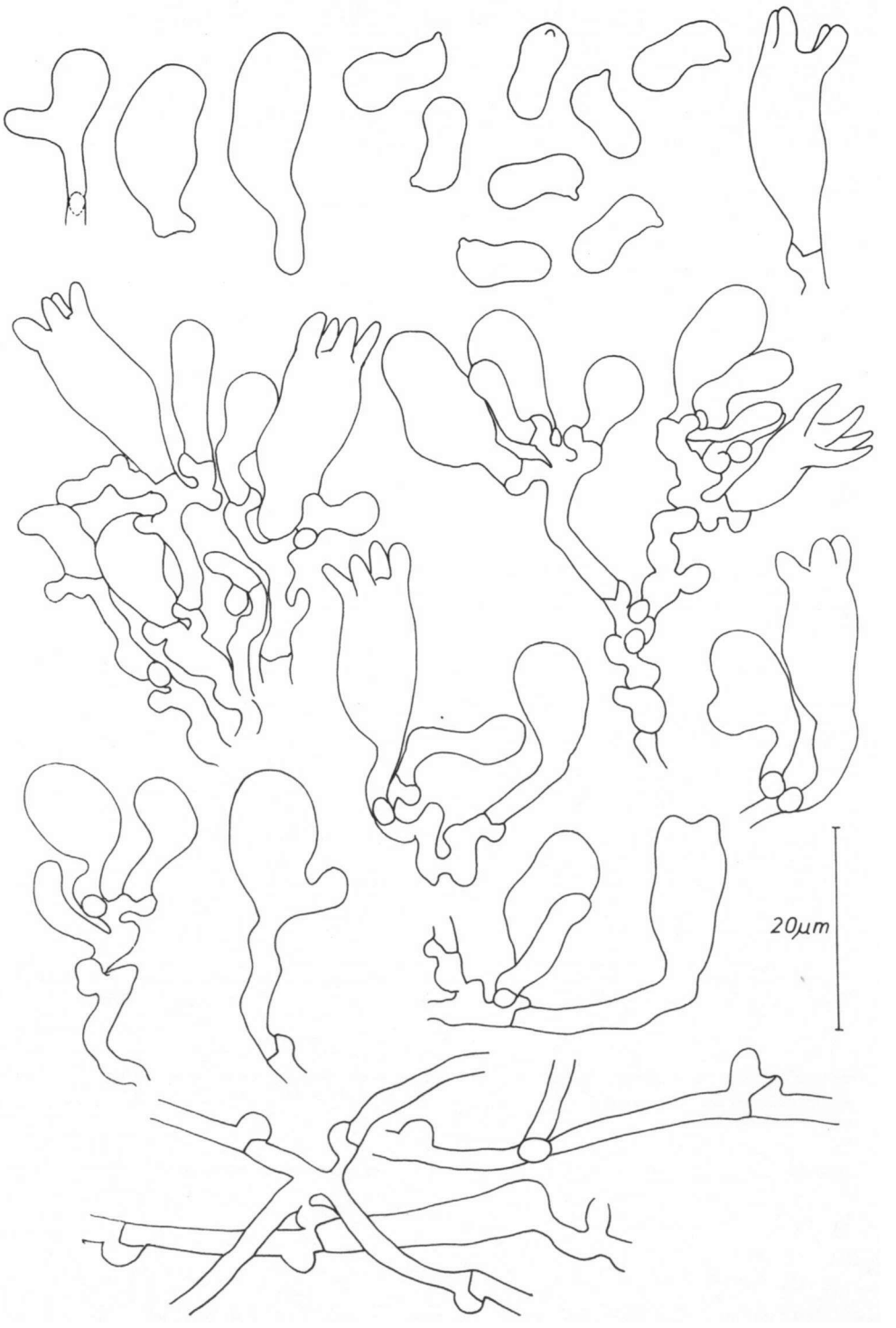

Fig. 2. *Melzericium bourdotii*, holotype.