

NEWLY RECORDED IN THE NETHERLANDS—V
PORIA SERICEO-MOLLIS

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PORIA SERICEO-MOLLIS (Romell) Lloyd

Polyporus sericeo-mollis Romell in Ark. Bot. 11: 22. 1911. — *Poria sericeo-mollis* (Romell) Lloyd, Mycol. Writings 4, Letter No. 40: 6. 1912. — *Strangulidium sericeo-molle* (Romell) Pouz. in Česká Mykol. 21: 206. 1967. — For other synonyms, see Donk (1974: 163).

Fruitbodies resupinate, effused, up to 10 × 5 cm, readily separable, locally revolute at margin, ± 1 mm thick, white, soft and pliable but tough when fresh, orange-white to greyish orange, sometimes pinkish white and fragile when dry. Subiculum white,

very thin or absent. Margin at first sterile, white, byssoid, about 1 mm wide, later fertile up to well-defined edge. Tubes up to 1 mm long; pores about circular, but irregular or dedaloid on inclined surfaces, 0.2–0.25 mm in diameter, averaging 3–4 per mm; dissepiments about 0.05 mm thick, entire.

Hyphal system monomitic. Hyphae mostly thick-, sometimes thin-walled, 2.5–4 μm in diameter, branched, with clamps, interwoven. Cystidia numerous but unevenly distributed, thin-walled, cylindrical to clavate, (10–)20–30 \times (3–)4(–5) μm , heavily encrusted at apex. Incrustations 5–10 μm in diameter, readily soluble in 5% KOH, but not in 10% NH_4OH . Basidia clavate, (7–)10–18 \times 4–5 μm , with four 3–4 μm long sterigmata. Spores ellipsoid, flattened on one side, 3.5–4.5 \times 2–3 μm , hyaline, smooth, inamyloid.

COLLECTIONS EXAMINED.—N E T H E R L A N D S : prov. Gelderland. Putten, 'Schovenhorst', Pinetum, 29 Oct. 1977, *H. F. van der Laan*, on side of stump of coniferous tree and on log of coniferous wood from other part of pinetum (L).

Poria sericeo-mollis has frequently been confused with other species. According to Donk (1974: 261–262) its author, Romell, failed to distinguish between it and species now known as *Oligoporus rennyi* (B. & Br.) Donk, *Tyromyces ptychogaster* (F. Ludw.) Donk and *Tyromyces floriformis* (Quél. apud Bres.) Bond & S. In addition, Romell did not mention the presence of cystidia, although they are abundant in the type. The failure of several other mycologists to find these, may have caused the confusion with such species as mentioned above, none of which has cystidia. However, because it now has been found that the incrustations at the apex of the cystidia dissolve in KOH, this failure may also have been caused by mounting the material for microscopic examination in this solution. After the incrustations have disappeared the thin-walled cystidia are hard to recognize.

Another striking difference between *P. sericeo-mollis*, as it is conceived today, on the one hand, and *Oligoporus rennyi* as well as *Tyromyces ptychogaster* on the other hand, is the absence of a chlamydosporous state in the former and its presence in the latter two species. Chlamydosporous fruitbodies of *Tyromyces ptychogaster* are more frequently found than are basidiosporous fructifications. In the Netherlands it is a rather rare species. *Oligosporus rennyi*, which as a rule develops both kinds of spores next to each other, has been observed even less frequently in this country. For this reason, it is of interest to note that in October 1975 I found specimens of *T. ptychogaster* with tubes and basidiospores as well as chlamydospores in the Schovenhorst Pinetum, and was subsequently given by Dr. W. Gams the corresponding forms of *Oligoporus rennyi* found in the course of the same foray.

Pouzar (1967: 206) united *P. sericeo-mollis* and *O. rennyi* and transferred them to a new genus, *Strangulidium*, because both have utriform basidia and cyanophilous sporewalls. However, Donk (1974: 236), pending further research, preferred to leave them in the genera *Poria* and *Oligoporus*.

According to Jahn (1971: 58) *P. sericeo-mollis* has been found several times in the mountainous and hilly regions of Westfalia. He presumes that it may also be found in the low lands in the north of Germany, because Christiansen (1960: 360) mentions two finds in Denmark. The species is also listed by Pegler (1973: 38) for Great Britain. *P. sericeo-mollis* had not been recorded before in the Netherlands.

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