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POLYPORES OF CIRCEO NATIONAL PARK (ITALY)

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Summary: The present paper reports a checklist of Polyporaceae s.l. of Circeo National Park, Central Italy. Among them Olygoporus rennyi, Perenniporia amylohypha, Polyporus meridionalis, Skeletocutis subincarnata and Tyromyces spraguei are new to Italy.

Riassunto: Gli autori riportano in questo lavoro una lista di Polyporaceae rinvenute nel Parco Nazionale del Circeo, alcune delle quali sono risultate nuove per l'Italia e cioè: Olygoporus rennyi, Perenniporia amylohypha, Polyporus meridionalis, Skeletocutis subincarnata e Tyromyces spraguei.

Résumé: Les Auteurs présentent une liste de Polyporaceae, trouvées dans le Parc National du Circeo, dont certaines sont nouvelles pour l'Italie, c'est à dire: Olygoporus rennyi, Perenniporia amylohypha, Polyporus meridionalis, Skeletocutis subincarnata et Tyromyces spraguei.

Zusammenfassung: Die Autoren geben eine Liste der Polyporaceae s.l., die im Nationalpark von Circeo (Italien) gefunden wurden. Darunter befinden sich folgende Erstfunde für Italien: Olygoporus rennyi, Perenniporia amylohypha, Polyporus meridionalis, Skeletocutis subincarnata und Tyromyces spraguei.

The paper deals with 30 species of Polyporaceae s.l. collected in Circeo National Park during two different expeditions, one in the end of October, the second in the beginning of December of 1984, by Leif Ryvarden and Annarosa Bernicchia. Kurt Hjortstam and Karl Henrik Larsson were later connected with the project.

The Circeo National Park (Padula, 1985) is situated to the south of Rome, in the province of Latina. The area is 8484 ha and the park has a typical mediterranean bio-climate. However, for natural and anthropic reasons, its flora and vegetation vary considerably.

The Cerasella meteorological station is situated inside the park.

The following table indicates the average precipitation in the National Park.

Cerasella pluviometric station: 34 m a.s.l., inside the state forest. No. of observation years 29 (from 1954 to 1982)

	Rainfall mm	No. of rainy days
January	107,2	10
February	94,2	9

March	87,2		10
April	68,8		8
May	41,8		6
June	26,6] 76,0	4
July	9,4		2
August	38,0		8
September	73,5		5
October	129,3		8
November	141,9		10
December	140,6		12
Year	958,8		87

The annual average varies from a minimum of 610 mm in 1957 to a maximum of 1236 in 1969. The average rainfall during the summer quarter (June–July–August) from a minimum of 11 mm in 1982 to a maximum of 197,2 mm in 1968.

THE STATE FOREST

The Sabaudia State forest and adjacent areas included in the park are situated at the southernmost end of the Pontina lowland (Fig. 1). It comprises a rectangular, woody area delimited by four roads: the Migliaria 49 and 54, the Mediana and Litoranea. Finally, there is a small nucleus, separate from the forest, situated to the south of the main area, comprising a small peninsula, which extends into lake Paola.

The area of the forest is approx. 3200 ha. The present state forest is a residual strip of the original Terracina woodland, located in the vast marshy region known as Pontina marshes. The forest was not cut down during the huge drainage operation of the

Pontina lowland which took place at the end of the 1920's and in the early 1930's.

The forest is situated on a series of continental dunes dating from the Upper Palaeolithic period, formed as a result of marine retreat. The dunes consist of reddish-yellow sands, loose on the surface and more or less cemented by the ferrous-manganesiferous deposits and palaeosols in the lower strata.

The principal vegetation types in the forest may be classified as follows: xerophilous vegetation, hygrophilous vegetation of the swamp areas, meadow vegetation, anthropic vegetation (pine, eucalyptus and poplar plantations). The most important of these are the first two.

The xerophilous vegetation is characterized by the overriding presence of Quercus cerris, Q. frainetto, Q. robur and Q. pubescens. Q. suber and Q. ilex are rare. There is a dense tree canopy consisting largely of Fraxinus ornus, Carpinus betulus, Ostrya carpinifolia, Carpinus orientalis, Sorbus domestica, S. torminalis, Acer campestre nearly all of them of agamic origin. Further, there are small trees Crataegus monogina, Pyrus piraster, Malus sylvestris, Mespilus germanica with occasional thickets of heather: Erica arborea, Erica scoparia, Evonymus europaeus and Arbutus unedo. Hedera helix is widespread on the ground and tree trunks, completely covering the surface in some parts. Herbaceous species are rare and sparsely distributed in the dense undergrowth. The most common are: Brachypodium sylvaticum, Luzula forsterii, Teucrium chamaedry, T. scorodonia, Cyclamen hederifolium, C. repandum, Fragaria vesca.

The vegetation of the second type is characterized by the deciduous trees described above, together with scattered specimens either singly or in groups, of Quercus ilex and Q. suber. In this type of forest Quercus cerris, Q. frainetto, Q. pubescens and, in

particular, Carpinus, Fraxinus, Acer campestre are less common than in the other type. Quercus ilex and Q. suber, which in the previous facies were decidedly rare, appear here relatively frequently. A few examples of Quercus crenata can also be seen.

LIST OF SPECIES

All the collections mentioned below are deposited in Plant Pathology Institute, University of Bologna (Herb. Univ. Bononiensis) and in Biological Institute, University of Oslo (Herb. Univ. Osloensis). The nomenclature is that of Donk (1974) and Ryvarden (1976-78). The species marked with an asterisk have not been previously recorded in Italy.

Ganodermataceae

Ganoderma applanatum (S.F. Gray) Pat.

On a stump of Pinus pinea.

G. resinaceum Boud.

On living Quercus suber.

Hymenochaetaceae

Phellinus contiguus (Fr.) Pat.

On decorticated wood of angiosperm.

P. igniarius (Fr.) Quél.

On a small branch of Rhamnus alaternus in the dunes areas.

P. lundelii Niemalä

On Cystus salviefolius and Erica scoparia in the "machia" area.

P. punctatus (Fr.) Pilát

On standing Eucalyptus, Quercus branch and on a small trunk of

angiosperm in the dune area.

P. torulosus (Pers.) Bourd. & Galz.

On stumps of Quercus sp.

Polyporaceae

Antrodia ramentacea (Berk. & Br.) Donk

On the bark of Pinus pinea.

Dichomitus campestris (Quél.) Domań. & Orl.

Common species in the Park; found on Quercus ilex, Q. cerris and Malus.

Gloeoporus dichrous (Fr.) Bres.

On a branch of Q. cerris.

Heterobasidion annosum Bref.

On a standing Pinus pinea.

Junghuhnia nitida (Fr.) Ryv.

On bark of Quercus.

*Oligoporus rennyi (Berk & Br.) Donk

On the bark of a stump and on lying log of Pinus pinea (Fig. 2).

*Perenniporia amylohypha Ryv. & Gilb.

Common in a restricted area of the Park (close to the lake) where almost 80% of lying or standing dead trunks and stumps of P. pinea were attacked by this polypore. Very often the mycelium invaded all the wood and small carpophores were visible inside the wounds left by dead branches.

This is a very rare species in Europe. Typically the skeletal hyphae dissolve rapidly in KOH, and the ellipsoid, very weakly dextrinoid spores are not distinctly truncate, as in other species of the genus. The skeletal hyphae are weakly amyloid in coll. n. 3418 (Fig. 3, 4).

*Polyporus meridionalis (David) Jahn

Several places of the dune area. This species is probably widespread

in the Mediterranean, but easily overlooked due to its small size and brown sandy colour, growing always on sand.

Rigidoporus ulmarius (Fr.) Imazeki

On Populus sp. It is a widespread, cosmopolitan species, but nowhere common.

Schizopora flavipora (Cooke) Ryv.

On Quercus, rather common in the park.

David & Rajchenberg (1985:314) have recently reported that the European taxon, recently called S. carneolutea (Rodw. & Clel.) Kotl. & Pouz. is identical with the American taxon often called Poria lignicola Murr., which was described from Cuba. David's collections came from French Antilles.

Ryvarden (1985:186) has shown that the oldest name for the taxon in question is based on Poria flavipora Cooke, which was described in 1886 from Venezuela. In Europe the same taxon has previously been known as Poria phellinoides Pil. (Fig. 5).

S. paradoxa (Fr.) Donk

On Quercus suber but often also on Pinus pinea.

Skeletocutis nivea (Jungh.) Keller

On Q. cerris.

*S. subincarnata (Peck) Dom.

On branches of P. pinea and Arbutus.

Trametes trogii Berk.

On Populus sp.

T. versicolor (Fr.) Pil.

On stump of P. pinea, Quercus cerris and Q. suber.

Trichaptum biformis (Fr. in Kl.) Ryv.

Common in the Park; found on branches and lying logs of Quercus suber and Q. cerris.

Tyromyces floriformis (Quél. in Bres.) Bond. & Sing.

On stump of P. pinea.

T. fragilis (Fr.) Donk

On Pinus pinea (Fig. 6).

Tyromyces lacteus (Fr.) Murr.

On Pinus pinea.

T. leucomallellus Murr.

On branches of Pinus pinea (Fig. 7).

*T. spraguei (Berk & Curt.) Murr.

On stump of Quercus suber. It is a very rare species in Europe. David (1980:6) reported it from France where Bourdot & Galzin described it as Polyporus castaneus (Fig. 8).

T. caesius (Fr.) Murr.

On Pinus pinea.

T. subcaesius David

On branch of angiosperm, on Circeo mountain.

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Captions

Figure 1 : Map of Circeo National Park.

Figure 2 : Pore surface of Oligoporus rennyi (Photo F. Padovan).
(x 3)

Figure 3 : Pore surface of Perenniporia amylohypha.
(x 120)

Figure 4 : Hyphae, basidiospores and cystidioles of Perenniporia amylohypha (F. Padovan).

Figure 5 : Pore surface of Schizopora flavipora.
(x 115)

Figure 6 : Pore surface of Tyromyces fragilis.
(x 60; x 30)

Figure 7 : Pore surface of Tyromyces leucomallellus.
(x 125)

Figure 8 : Hyphae and basidiospores of Tyromyces spraguei (F. Padovan).

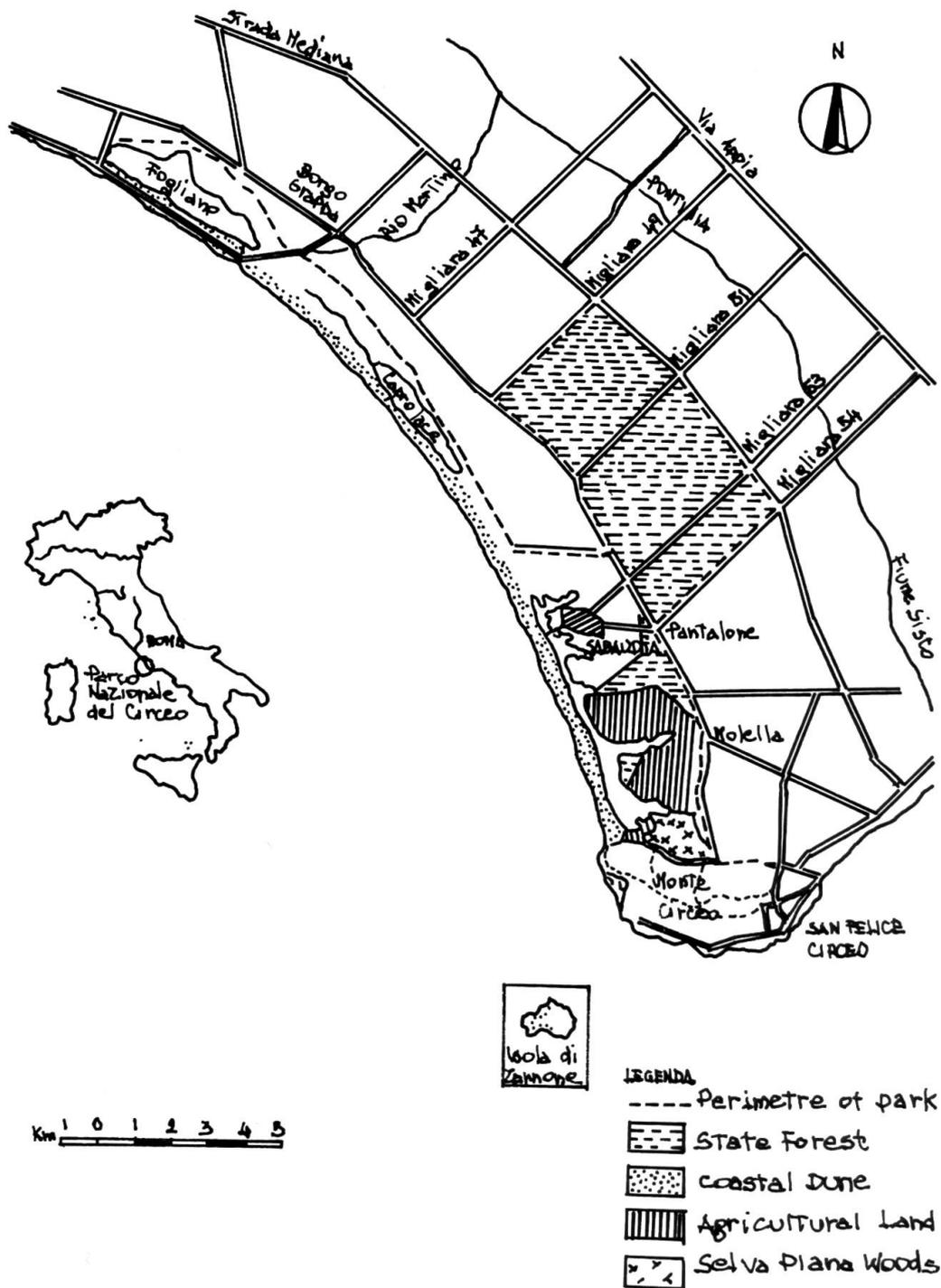


Fig. 1 - National Park Territory and its Geographical Position (Padula, 1985).

