



## On *Protomerulius* and *Heterochaetella* (Auriculariales, Basidiomycota)

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### Abstract

The taxonomy of *Protomerulius* and *Heterochaetella* is revised based on DNA data and morphological evidence, and their type species, *P. brasiliensis* and *H. dubia*, are proved to be congeneric. As a consequence, *H. dubia* and related species, of which four are described as new, are placed in *Protomerulius*. *Heterochaete microspora* is also combined in *Protomerulius*, and the genus concept is redefined to encompass effused species with smooth or spiny hymenophore and monomitic hyphal structure. *Psilochaete multifora*, gen. and spec. nov. is a distant relative of *Protomerulius* spp. found in Norway. *Heterochaetella cystidiophora* is re-collected in Brazil and placed in the synonyms of *Heterochaete sanctae-cathariniae*. This species does not belong to the *Protomerulius*–*Heterochaetella* lineage, and it is transferred to *Metulochaete*, gen. nov.

**Keywords** Heterobasidiomycetes · Phylogeny · Polypores · Taxonomy · New taxa

### Introduction

*Protomerulius brasiliensis* Möller was described from Brazil as a poroid fungus with septate basidia (Möller 1895). This was the first record of a species with poroid hymenophore among the so-called jelly fungi (heterobasidiomycetes). Both the genus and the species remained almost forgotten until

Friedrichsen (1977) published a list of Möller's collections preserved at the herbarium in Hamburg. Afterwards, Bandoni et al. (1982) studied one of the authentic collections labelled as *P. brasiliensis* and published a detailed description as well as microscopic drawings. Because *Protomerulius* is much older than other generic names for poroid heterobasidiomycetes (i.e., *Elmerina* Bres., *Aporpium* Bondartsev & Singer and *Protodaedalea* Imazeki), the resurrection of *Protomerulius* caused a lot of discussion concerning generic rearrangement of the group (Setliff & Ryvarden 1982, Ryvarden 1991, Reid 1992). However, no satisfactory solution for splitting this complex was proposed.

Weiss and Oberwinkler (2001) included some modern collections of *Protomerulius* spp. in the phylogenetic study of the Auriculariales. According to their results, *Protomerulius* forms a strongly supported clade together with corticioid (*Heterochaetella brachyspora* Luck-Allen), hydnoid (*Protohydnnum piceicola* Kühner), and clavarioid (*Tremellob dendropsis* sp.) taxa, and it is not closely related to the other poroid representatives of the order. While the latter ones (i.e., *Aporpium*, *Elmerina*, and *Protodaedalea*), as well as *Protohydnnum* were rather extensively studied in the last years (Miettinen et al. 2012, Zhou & Dai 2013, Sotome et al. 2014, Vlasák et al. 2016, Malysheva et al. 2018), only a few new sequences were generated for *Protomerulius* and *Heterochaetella*, and therefore, their relationships stayed

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unresolved. In the present study, we revise generic and species-level taxonomy of *Protomerulius* and associated taxa, and provide new information about *Heterochaetella cystidiophora* Lowy.

## Material and methods

**Morphological study** Type specimens and collections from herbaria BO, BPI, CWU, GB, H, HBG, K, LE, MAN, NY, O, PC, TAAM, TRTC, URM, as well as from the private herbarium of author JV were studied. Herbarium acronyms are given according to Thiers (2019). Microscopic routine follows Miettinen et al. (2018). All measurements were made from microscopic slides mounted in Cotton Blue, using phase contrast and oil immersion lens (Leitz Diaplan microscope,  $\times 1250$  amplification). The following abbreviations are used in morphological descriptions and species key for *Protomerulius* spp.: *L*, basidiospore length; *W*, basidiospore width; *Q'*, length/width ratio; *Q*, length/width ratio; *n*, number of measurements per specimens measured.

**Molecular techniques** In total, 44 specimens were selected for molecular sampling (Table 1). For most specimens, DNA was extracted from small fragments of dried basidiocarps using the NucleoSpin Plant II Kit (Macherey-Nagel GmbH & Co. KG) according to the manufacturer's protocols. The following primers were used for amplification and sequencing: ITS1F-ITS4 (White et al. 1990; Gardes & Bruns 1993) for the ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 fragment; JS1-LR5 (Vilgalys & Hester 1990; Landvik 1996) for part of nrLSU region; EF1-983F and EF1-1567R for approximately 500–600 bp of *tef1* (Rehner & Buckley 2005). PCR products were purified applying the GeneJET Gel Extraction Kit (Thermo Scientific, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., MA, USA). Sequencing was performed with an ABI model 3130 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA). Raw data were edited and assembled in MEGA X (Kumar et al. 2018). Molecular studies of some specimens were carried out at the center for collective use of scientific equipment “Cellular and molecular technology of studying plants and fungi” (Komarov Botanical Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg), and a few poroid specimens were sequenced as described in Miettinen et al. (2018).

**Phylogenetic analyses** For this study, 35 nrITS, 30 nrLSU, and 11 *tef1* sequences were generated (Table 1). In addition to the newly generated sequences, 47 nrITS and 45 nrLSU were retrieved from the GenBank database ([www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/)). Sequences were aligned with the MAFFT version 7 Web tool (<http://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/server/>)

using the Q-INS-i option for nrITS and nrITS+nrLSU datasets.

Phylogenetic reconstructions were performed with maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) analyses. Before the analyses, the best-fit substitution model was estimated separately for all alignments based on the Akaike information criterion (AIC) using FindModel Web server (<http://www.hiv.lanl.gov/content/sequence/findmodel/findmodel.html>). GTR model was chosen for all datasets. ML analysis was run on RAxML server, v.0.6.0 (<http://raxml-ng.vital-it.ch/#/>) with one hundred rapid bootstrap replicates. BI analysis was performed with MrBayes 3.2.5 software (Ronquist et al. 2012), for two independent runs, each with 5 million generations for concatenated dataset (nrITS+nrLSU) and 10 million generations for nrITS and *tef1* datasets, under described model and four chains with sampling every 100 generations. To check for convergence of MCMC analyses and to get estimates of the posterior distribution of parameter values, Tracer v1.7.1 was used (Rambaut et al. 2018). We accepted the result where the ESS (effective sample size) was above 200 and the PSRF (potential scale reduction factor) was close to 1. Newly generated sequences have been deposited in GenBank with corresponding accession numbers (Table 1). The alignments have been deposited in TreeBASE (S23966, S23967).

## Results

Three datasets were prepared for the present study: (1) nrITS + nrLSU dataset used to reconstruct a general topology of the *Auriculariales*, with special emphasis on *Protomerulius* and *Heterochaetella* spp., (2) nrITS and (3) *tef1* datasets supporting species concepts in the genus *Protomerulius* as redefined below.

1. nrITS + nrLSU dataset. The final alignment contained 1646 characters (including gaps). The overall topologies of the ML and BI trees were nearly identical and confirmed that *Protomerulius* and most *Heterochaetella* spp. (including the genus type, *Heterochaetella dubia* (Bourdot & Galzin) Bourdot & Galzin) belong to one strongly supported clade, while *H. cystidiophora* and a still unnamed taxon with a certain morphological similarity to the *H. dubia* complex form their own lineages within the order (Fig. 1).
- A) *Protomerulius/Heterochaetella* lineage (pp = 1, bs = 95) is uncovered as a sister clade of *Hyalodon* V. Malyshova & Spirin (typified with *Protohydnnum piceicola* Kuehner ex Bourdot). This outcome agrees with the earlier studies of the *Auriculariales* (Weiss

**Table 1** DNA sequences generated for the present study

Species	Specimen/ herbarium	Place of origin (ISO code)	Host	GenBank number		
				nrLSU	nrITS	tef1
<i>Metulochaete sanctae-cathariniae</i>	AM 0678 (URC)	BR-AC	Hardwood	MK480575	MK484065	–
<i>Protomerulius brachysporus</i>	PV 2600 (H)	FI	<i>Picea abies</i>	MK480547	MK484033	MK497236
<i>P. brachysporus</i>	LR 23195 (O)	MX	Conifer	MK480548	MK484038	–
<i>P. brachysporus</i>	O F293193	NO	<i>P. abies</i>	MK480550	MK484036	–
<i>P. brachysporus</i>	TAAM 102746	RU-PRI	<i>Abies nephrolepis</i>	–	MK484037	–
<i>P. brachysporus</i>	JN 7643 (O)	SE	<i>P. abies</i>	–	MK484035	–
<i>P. brachysporus</i>	VS 8351c (H)	USA-WA	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	MK480549	MK484034	–
<i>Protomerulius commotus</i>	VS 11097 (O)	NO	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	MK480552	MK484039	MK497237
<i>P. commotus</i>	VS 11110 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480551	MK484040	–
<i>Protomerulius dubius</i>	RS 14396 (H)	FI	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	–	MK484042	–
<i>P. dubius</i>	VS 3019 (H)	RU-NIZ	<i>Populus tremula</i>	MK480553	MK484041	–
<i>Protomerulius hebes</i>	LR 28406 (O)	ET	Hardwood	MK480554	–	–
<i>Protomerulius madidus</i>	VS 9845 (H)	EE	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	MK480555	–	MK497238
<i>P. madidus</i>	KHL 17664 (O)	NO	Rotten wood	MK480559	MK484047	–
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11045 (O)	NO	<i>Alnus incana</i>	MK480563	MK484049	MK497241
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11053 (O)	NO	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	–	MK484053	MK497244
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11094 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	–	MK484052	MK497243
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11102 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480556	MK484043	
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11108 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480562	MK484048	
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11588 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480558	MK484045	
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11641 (O)	NO	<i>A. incana</i>	MK480557	MK484044	MK497239
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 11671 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480560	MK484046	MK497240
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 12425 (O)	NO	<i>F. excelsior</i>	–	MK484051	–
<i>P. madidus</i>	VS 12492 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	–	MK484050	MK497242
<i>P. madidus</i>	CWU 5998	UA	<i>A. glutinosa</i>	MK480561	MK484054	–
<i>Protomerulius microsporus</i>	LR 23440 (O)	MX	Hardwood	MK480564	MK484055	–
<i>Protomerulius minor</i>	KHL 15937 (O)	BR-PE	Hardwood	MK480569	MK484060	–
<i>P. minor</i>	OM 15492 (H)	US-NY	Hardwood	MK480566	MK484057	–
<i>P. minor</i>	OM 15700 (H)	US-NY	<i>Acer?</i>	MK480567	MK484058	–
<i>P. minor</i>	OM 17461 (H)	US-AR	Hardwood	MK480568	MK484059	–
<i>P. minor</i>	OM 19586 (H)	US-NC	<i>Tilia americana</i>	MK480565	MK484056	MK497245
<i>Protomerulius pertusus</i>	O F75913	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480570	MK484063	–
<i>P. pertusus</i>	KHL 17572 (O)	NO	Rotten wood	MK480573	MK484061	–
<i>P. pertusus</i>	VS 3081 (H)	RU-NIZ	<i>Quercus robur</i>	MK480574	MK484062	–
<i>P. pertusus</i>	VS 3149 (H)	RU-NIZ	<i>Q. robur</i>	MK480572	–	–
<i>P. pertusus</i>	VS 11947 (H)	RU-NIZ	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	MK480571	MK484064	–
<i>Protomerulius subreflexus</i>	OM 5642 (H)	ID	Hardwood	–	MK636543	–
<i>P. subreflexus</i>	OM 13695 (H)	ID	Hardwood	–	MK636542	–
<i>P. subreflexus</i>	OM 14402 (H)	ID	Hardwood	MG757508	MG757508	MK649813
<i>P. substuppeus</i>	JV 1407/104 (H)	CR	Hardwood	–	MK434169	–
<i>P. substuppeus</i>	LR 41683 (O)	JM	Dead wood	–	MK636539	–
<i>P. substuppeus</i>	LR 39093 (O)	PR	Hardwood	–	MK636541	–
<i>P. substuppeus</i>	Ipulet F483 (O)	UG	Rotten wood	–	MK636540	–
<i>Psilocheete multifora</i>	VS 11596 (O)	NO	<i>U. glabra</i>	MK480576	MK484066	MK497246

& Oberwinkler 2001, Zhou & Dai 2013, Malysheva et al. 2018). Two poroid species with effused-reflexed basidiocarps, *Protomerulius substuppeus* (Berk. & Cooke) Ryvarden (= *P. brasiliensis*, the generic type—see below) and *P. subreflexus* (Lloyd) Miettinen & Ryvarden are nested in a strongly supported subclade (pp = 1, bs = 100) together with the effused, hydnoid species *Heterochaete microspora* Burt. Remaining sequences that were recovered in the *Protomerulius/Heterochaetella* clade were obtained from effused, smooth, or hydnoid specimens corresponding to the current concept of *Heterochaetella dubia* (as understood by Reid 1990 and Roberts 1998).

These sequences form seven clades interpreted as separate species. Macroscopically, the two poroid *Protomerulius* species look strikingly different from the effused, smooth, or hydnoid taxa (Fig. 4). However, retaining *Protomerulius* for poroid taxa only is not possible because at least the hydnoid *H. microspora* should have been included in the genus so redefined. Alternatively, to keep polypores separate, at least four new, morphologically indistinguishable genera should be created, placing *P. subreflexus* and *P. substuppeus* to different genera, which we do not consider a practical solution. Therefore, we consider the whole *Protomerulius/Heterochaetella* clade as one genus for which *Protomerulius* is the oldest available name. Morphological evidences for this solution are discussed in the taxonomic part of this paper.

- B) An unnamed taxon with effused, smooth basidiocarps clusters with *Hyalodon* and *Protomerulius* (incl. *Heterochaetella*) but with low support (pp = 0.92, bs = 65). Considering its clear morphological differences from the two latter genera, it is introduced below as *Psilocybe multiflora*, gen. and sp. nov.
- C) *Heterochaetella cystidiophora* Lowy is not related to the previous taxa and detected among the “core” *Auriculariales* genera (e.g., *Auricularia*, *Exidia*, *Exidiopsis*, etc.) although it is clearly isolated from them. This result agrees with morphological data because the only similarity shared by *H. cystidiophora* with some members of *Heterochaetella dubia* complex is a hydnoid hymenophore while all essential microscopic characters (hyphal structure, shape, and size of basidia and basidiospores) are widely different. In our opinion, *H. cystidiophora* is a younger synonym of *Heterochaete sanctae-catharinae* Möller (see “Taxonomy” section). No older generic names are available for it, and therefore, it is placed in a new genus, *Metulochaete*.

2. nrITS dataset. The final alignment contained 692 characters (including gaps). The overall topologies of the ML and BI trees were nearly identical and corresponded to nrITS + nrLSU phylogeny of *Protomerulius* (incl. *Heterochaetella*) although with a much broader set of sequences (Fig. 2).
3. *tef1* dataset. The final alignment contained 600 characters (including gaps). The topology reveals no contradictions against nrITS + nrLSU and nrITS phylogenies albeit *tef1* sequences were available for five *Protomerulius* species only (Fig. 3).

Here, we present our taxonomic conclusions, with taxa treated in alphabetical order. Taxonomic changes proposed in the present paper are summarized in Table 2.

## Taxonomy

### *Metulochaete* Alvarenga, gen. nov.

MB 830966

Etymology. *Metulochaete* (Lat., noun)—the name refers to metuloid cystidia covering hymenophoral spines.

Basidiocarps effused, continuous, pale-colored, gelatinous to waxy-arid, smooth or covered by sterile spines. Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, hyaline. Hyphidia present, branched. Cystidia metuloid, covering hymenial spines. Basidia 4-celled, sessile, ovoid. Basidiospores thin-walled, allantoid, straight to slightly curved. On wood remnants.

Type species. *Heterochaete sanctae-catharinae* Möller.

Effused basidiocarps and sterile spines densely distributed on the hymenial surface make *Heterochaete sanctae-catharinae* (= *Heterochaetella cystidiophora*) similar to *Heterochaete* s.l. However, the latter genus is polyphyletic (Malysheva & Spirin 2017, Alvarenga et al. 2019), and no other species addressed to it possess heavily encrusted, thick-walled (metuloid) cystidia covering sterile hymenial outgrowths.

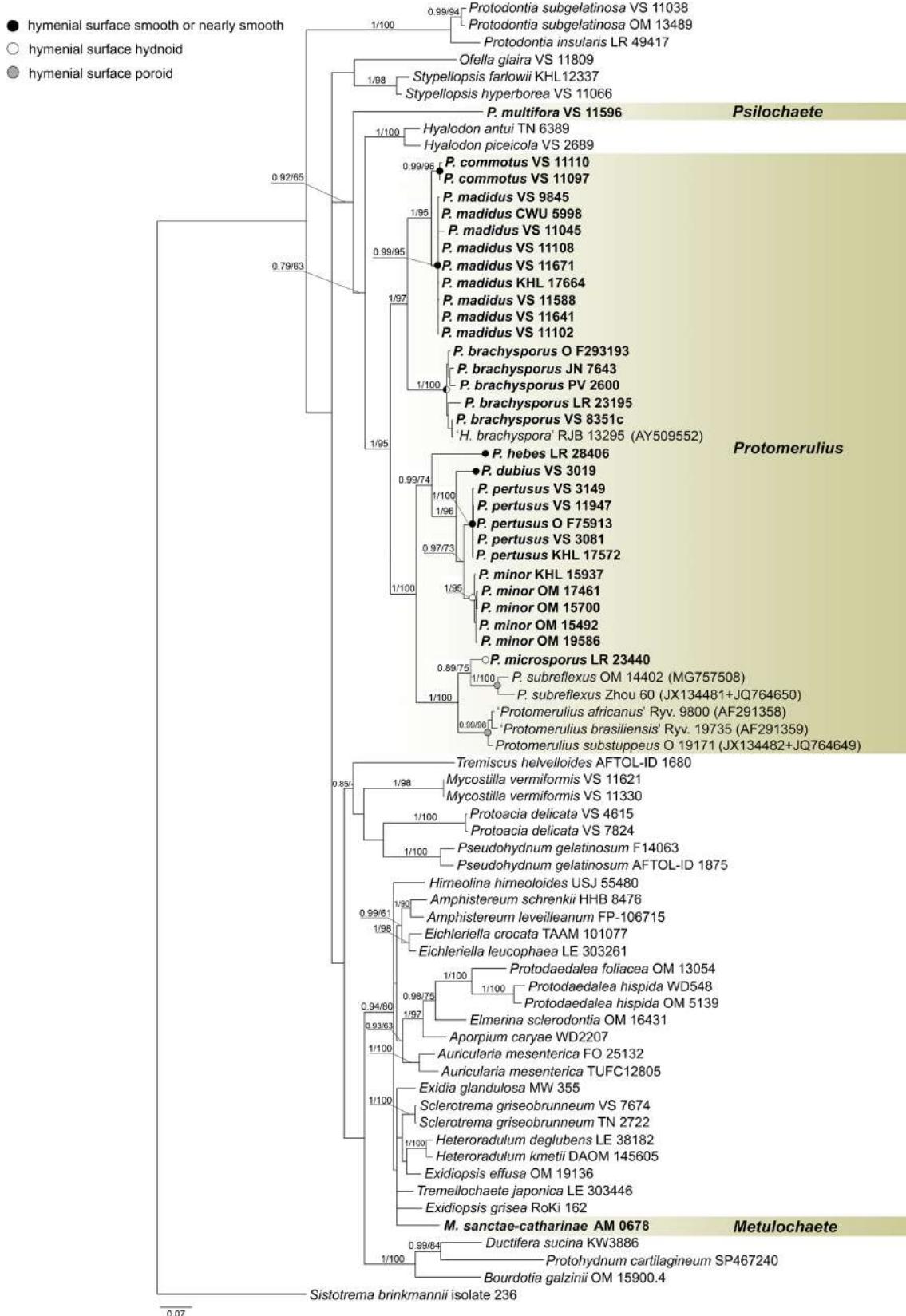
### *Metulochaete sanctae-catharinae* (Möller) Alvarenga, comb. nov.—Fig. 5.

MB 830967

≡ *Heterochaete sanctae-catharinae* Möller, Bot. Mitth. Tropen 8: 81, 1895. Lectotype. Table 4, Fig. 8 in A. Möller, Bot. Mitth. Tropen 8, 1895 (selected here, MBT 387039).

≡ *Heterochaetella cystidiophora* Lowy, Flora Neotropica 6: 82, 1971.

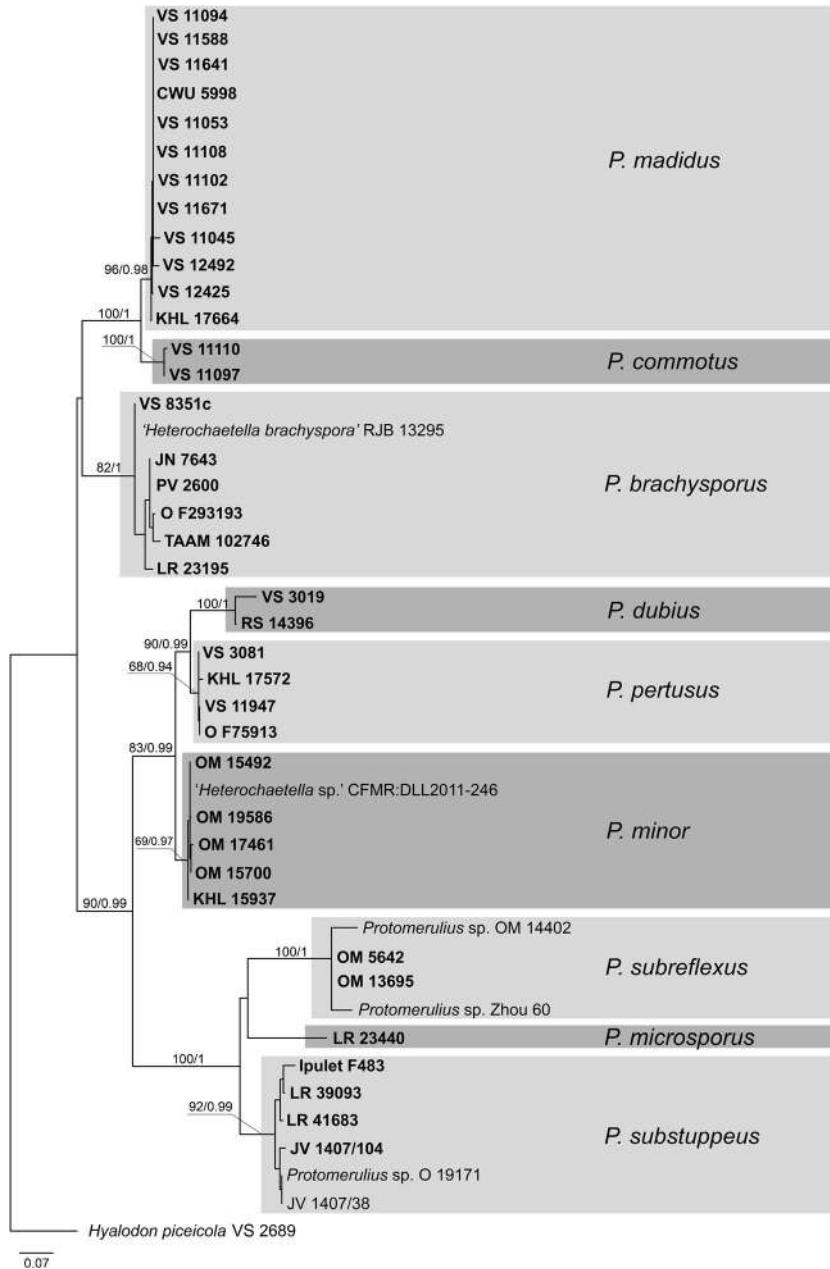
Basidiocarps effused, orbicular or fusing together, continuous, yellowish-white, gelatinous when fresh, waxy-arid when dried, smooth or covered by more or less regularly distributed, rather blunt spines 125–150 × 35–45 µm, 7–8 per



**Fig. 1** Combined phylogenetic nrITS+nrLSU topology from Bayesian inference analysis showing main lineages within *Auriculariales*. All sequences generated for this study are indicated in bold faces. Collection numbers are given for all sequences. Support values (BA/

ML) are given above the branches. Scale bar shows expected changes per site. Original names are retained for the sequences obtained in GenBank (given in inverted commas)

**Fig. 2** Best tree from maximum likelihood analysis for the nrITS dataset showing phylogenetic relationships of *Protomerulius* species. All sequences generated for this study are indicated in bold faces. Collection numbers are given for all sequences. Support values (ML/BA) are given on the branches. Scale bar shows expected changes per site. Original names are retained for the sequences obtained in GenBank (given in inverted commas)

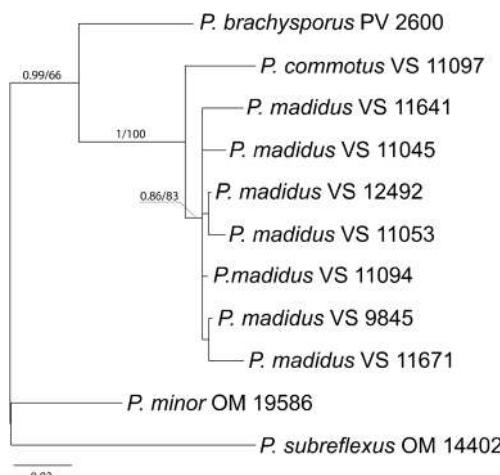


mm, margin adnate, compact, white or very pale cream-colored.

Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, hyaline, slightly thick-walled and 2–4  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. in subiculum, thin-walled and 1.5–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. in subhymenium. Hyphidia present, branched, 1–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex. Cystidia heavily encrusted, sharp, ventricose, thick-walled, 15–20  $\times$  5–8.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , covering hymenial spines. Basidia 4-celled, sessile, ovoid, 17–20  $\times$  11–14  $\mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores thin-walled, allantoid, straight to slightly curved, (10.1–) 11.5–15.6 (–16.2)  $\times$  (4.5–) 4.7–6.4 (–7.1)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n=46/2$ ), L = 14.06–14.23, W = 5.14–5.80, Q = 2.42–2.76.

**Distribution and ecology.** Brazil (Acre, Santa Catarina); on wood remnants of angiosperms.

**Remarks.** Möller (1895) described and illustrated *Heterochaete sanctae-catharinae* based on specimens from southern Brazil (Blumenau–Santa Catarina). After almost eight decades, Lowy (1971) studied specimens with sterile spines covered by metuloid cystidia from the same area of Brazil and introduced them as a new species, *Heterochaetella cystidiophora*. In our opinion, the description and illustration of *H. sanctae-catharinae* indicate that it is identical with *Heterochaetella cystidiophora*. Friedrichsen (1977) mentioned an authentic specimen of *H. sanctae-*



**Fig. 3** Midpoint Bayesian phylogram for the *tef1* dataset showing major lineages of the *Protomerulius*. Collection numbers are given for all sequences. Support values (BA/ML) are given on the branches. Scale bar shows expected changes per site

*catharinae* stored in HBG. However, the author VS was unable to find it there. Therefore, the species is typified here with Möller's illustration.

In the protologue, *H. cystidiophora* was introduced as lacking clamps. Roberts (1998) studied the type specimen and found regular clamp connections. This agrees with our observations. Roberts moved *H. cystidiophora* to the artificial genus *Heterochaete*, and the same combination was proposed a few months earlier by Kisimova-Horovitz et al. (1997). The latter authors reported *H. cystidiophora* from Costa Rica. Judging from their spore measurements, the Costa Rican collections may well represent another species of *Metulochaete*.

***Protomerulius*** Möller, Bot. Mitt. Tropen 8: 129, 1895.

Basidiocarps annual, resupinate to effused-reflexed or rarely sessile-pileate, smooth or irregularly warted to hydnoid or regularly poroid, soft, waxy-gelatinized to floccose. Hyphal structure mono- or dimitic; skeletal hyphae thick-walled, normally with a rather wide lumen, CB (+), generative hyphae clamped. Thick-walled trmal cystidia present in effused species, deeply rooted, often

in fascicles. Hyphidia present. Gloeocystidia and hymenial cystidia occurring in some species. Rosette-like or stellate crystals present among hyphae or on sterile hymenial cells. Basidia (2–) 4-celled, stipitate, with rather short and thick sterigmata. Basidiospores thin-walled (although the spore wall distinct), broadly cylindrical to subglobose, 4–9.5 × 3–6 µm, repetitive. On various wood remnants.

Type species. *Protomerulius brasiliensis* Möller.

The genus is redefined here to embrace two poroid species (*P. subreflexus* and *P. substuppeus*), *Heterochaete microspora* and members of the *Heterochaetella dubia* complex. Despite dissimilar macroscopic habit of poroid and hydnoid/smooth taxa included in *Protomerulius* in this study, they share several important anatomical features. First, basidia of all aforementioned taxa are sphaeropedunculate, i.e., divided in a more or less globose, two- or four-celled apical part and a pronounced stalk. Basidia of this kind were detected in several other genera of the *Auriculariales* (Spirin et al., 2019a, b); however, none of them possesses long, thick-walled, fasciculate trmal cystidia as occurring in effused, non-poroid members of *Protomerulius*. Those cystidia are evidently homologous to skeletal hyphae of the poroid *Protomerulius* spp., which originate deep in tube trama and enter in dissepiment edges as slightly swollen and almost thin-walled emergences. In this respect, *P. microsporus* and *P. minor* represent a transitional case—they both are effused, hydnoid species but their trmal cystidia are not well-differentiated and can be interpreted as thin-walled apices of skeletal hyphae. Stellate crystals occurring among hyphae and sometimes encrusting hymenial cells were found in all *Protomerulius* species treated below; therefore, their presence is another morphological feature of the genus.

The closely related genus *Hyalodon* differs from *Protomerulius* in having poorly developed subiculum and distinctly hydnoid, gelatinized hymenophore. Trmal hyphae of *Hyalodon* spp. are more or less strictly parallel, tightly arranged and often densely encrusted by angular crystals (Malysheva et al. 2018). These features as well as absence of cystidia differentiate *Hyalodon* spp. from *Protomerulius*.

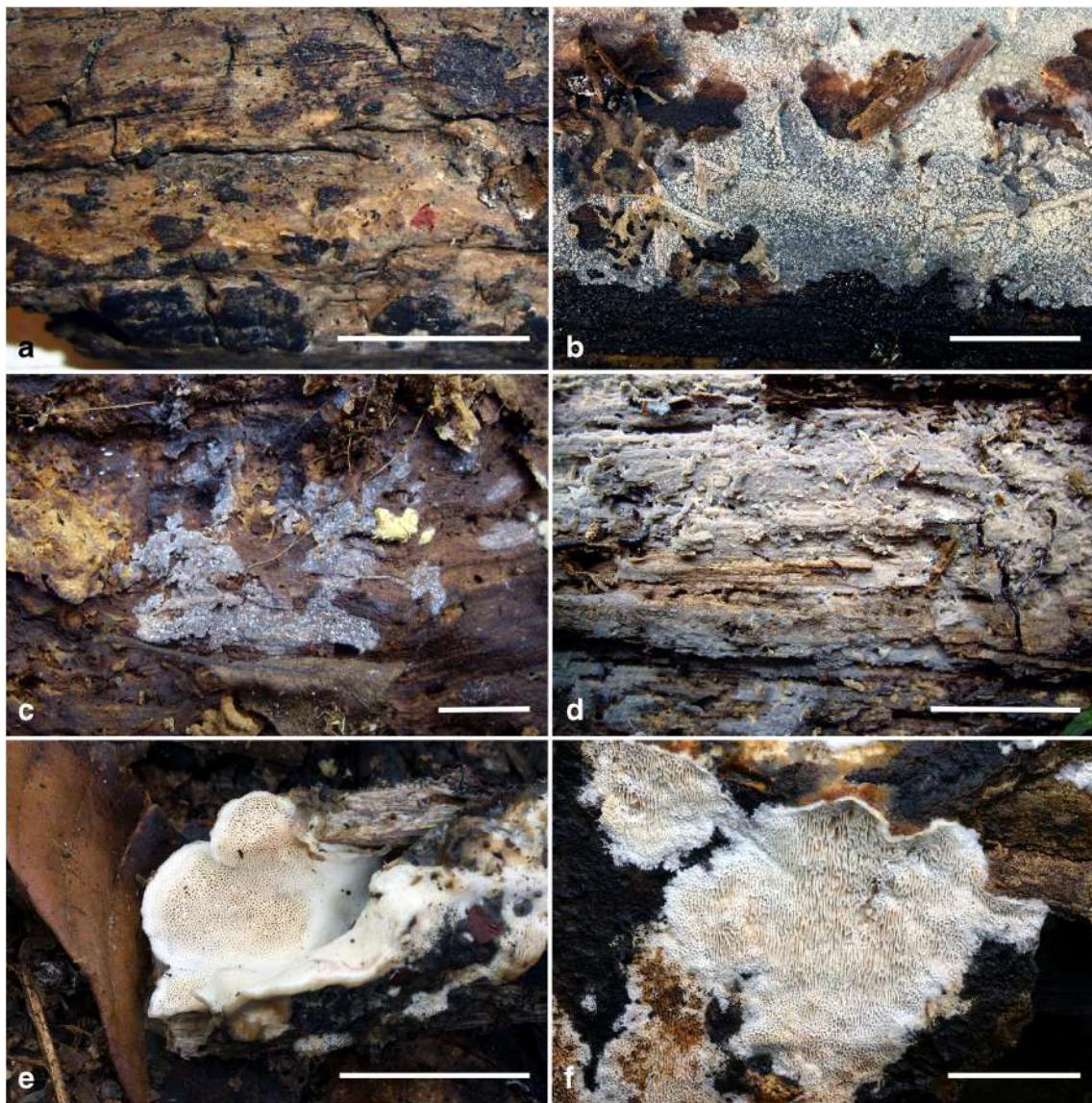
**Table 2** Taxonomic changes proposed in the present study

Taxonomic names in the *Protomerulius*–*Heterochaetella* complex as presented in the literature (fide Luck-Allen 1961, Lowy 1971 and Ryvarden 1991)

*Heterochaetella brachyspora* Luck-Allen  
*H. cystidiophora* Lowy  
*H. dubia* (Bourdot & Galzin) Bourdot & Galzin  
*Protomerulius brasiliensis* A. Möller  
*Stypella minor* Möller

Accepted in the present study as

*Protomerulius brachysporus* (Luck-Allen) Spirin & V. Malysheva  
*Metulochaete sanctae-catharinae* (Möller) Alvarenga  
*Protomerulius dubius* (Bourdot & Galzin) Spirin & V. Malysheva  
*P. substuppeus* (Berk. & Cooke) Ryvarden  
*P. minor* (Möller) Spirin & Miettinen



**Fig. 4** Basidiocarps of *Protomerulius* spp.: **a** *P. brachysporus* (isotype); **b** *P. minor* (Miettinen 15700); **c** *P. madidus* (Spirin 11588, senescent basidiocarp with characteristic white inclusions); **d** *P. madidus* (holotype); **e** *P. subreflexus* (Miettinen 14392); **f** *P. substuppeus* (Vlasák 0409/10). Scale bar = 10 mm

***Protomerulius brachysporus* (Luck-Allen) Spirin & V. Malysheva, comb. nov.—Figs. 4a, 6b–d, and 7.**

MB 830953

= *Heterochaetella brachyspora* Luck-Allen, Canadian J. Bot. 38: 566, 1960. Holotype. France: Var, Toulon, on wood in a dike, VI.1925 Crozalc 70 (herb. Bourdot 39164) (PC—isotype, studied).

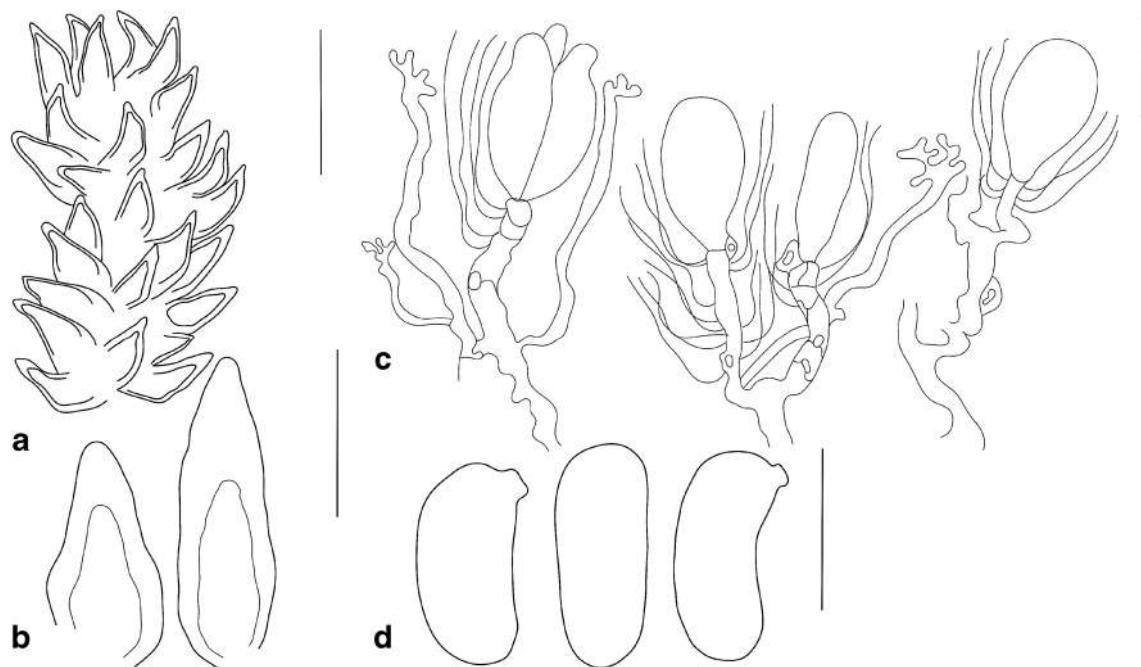
= *Heterochaetella dubia* f. *crassior* Bourdot & Galzin, Hymén. France: 52, 1928. Lectotype. France. Aveyron: Causse Noir, *Pinus* sp., XII.1910 Galzin 7858 (herb. Bourdot 7606) (PC, studied) (selected here, MBT 387040).

= *Heterochaetella dubia* f. *sphaerospora* Bourdot & Galzin, Hymén. France: 52, 1928. Lectotype. France. Aveyron: Causse Noir, *Pinus* sp., 20.XI.1913 Galzin 14489

(herb. Bourdot 14496) (PC, studied) (selected here, MBT 387041).

Basidiocarps effused, first smooth or covered by minute, irregularly arranged warts, floccose, reticulate, white or greyish, with craters or holes, then continuous, greyish or ochraceous, waxy, old basidiocarps brownish, strongly gelatinized, some producing irregularly distributed spine-like outgrowths, up to 5 cm in widest dimension, 0.05–0.5 (1) mm thick, margin narrow, pruinose, whitish to cream-colored.

Hyphal structure monomitic or occasionally dimitic; skeletal hyphae occurring in subiculum of mature specimens, hyaline to brownish, distinctly thick-walled, 1.8–2.5  $\mu$ m in diam., generative hyphae dominating, clamped, thin- or only slightly thick-walled, 1.5–3 (3.5)  $\mu$ m in diam., occasionally



**Fig. 5** *Metulochaete sanctae-catharinae* (URM 93055): **a** hymenial spine covered by cystidia; **b** separate cystidia; **c** subhymenial hyphae and basidia; **d** basidiospores. Scale bar, **a** = 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , **b-d** = 10  $\mu\text{m}$

inflated up to 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. in subiculum. Tramal cystidia abundant, hyaline to brownish, tubular-clavate, flexuous, slightly or moderately thick-walled (wall up to 2  $\mu\text{m}$  thick), gradually thinning-out to the apex (thin-walled apical parts often collapsing), (54–) 56–123 (–132)  $\times$  (3.2–) 3.7–7.3 (–8.3)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 87/8$ ), solitary or in groups of 2–8 (smooth parts) or up to 20 and more (in spines if present), easily breaking in microscopic slides; hymenial cystidia abundant in young basidiocarps, thin-walled, tubular-clavate to barrel- or bullet-shaped, 18–32  $\times$  4–8  $\mu\text{m}$ . Hyphidia present, associated with cystidia, simple or sparsely branched, often with thickened walls at the basal part, 2–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex, or distributed among basidia and basidioles, variably branched, mostly embedded, 1–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex. Crystals abundant in young basidiocarps, rare in older ones, acicular or in variably shaped agglomerations, up to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  in widest dimension. Basidia 2–4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 7.5–11.5  $\times$  6–9  $\mu\text{m}$ ; stipe up to 9  $\times$  3.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , sterigmata up to 12  $\times$  2–3  $\mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to broadly ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid or pyriform, in exceptional cases subglobose, (4.1–) 4.2–9.3 (–9.8)  $\times$  (3.5–) 3.8–5.8 (–6.0)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 380/13$ ), L = 5.09–7.83, W = 4.13–5.02, Q' = (1.1–) 1.2–2.2 (–2.6), Q = 1.24–1.74.

**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Finland, France, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden), North America (Canada, British Columbia; USA, Washington; Mexico, Vera Cruz), Asia (Kyrgyzstan, Siberia, Russian Far East); on fallen logs and dead branches of conifers (*Abies*, *Picea*, *Pinus*, *Thuja*).

**Remarks.** The species was introduced as *Heterochaetella brachyspora* by Luck-Allen (1960) with the type specimen

collected in France and labelled by Bourdot as *Heterochaetella dubia* var. *mesochaeta* f. *brachyspora*. However, Luck-Allen's idea about spore shape and size as the main diagnostic features of this species cannot be maintained. After re-studying the isotype of *H. brachyspora*, we concluded that it is identical with specimens collected from coniferous wood throughout the northern hemisphere. Those collections (of which six were sequenced) show the widest spore variation range within the genus. However, they can undoubtedly be addressed to this species due to other morphological features, i.e., clearly gelatinized and rather thick basidiocarps and apically very thin-walled and often collapsing, fragile tramal cystidia. *Protomerulius brachysporus* is the only conifer-dwelling species so far recognized in the genus. This host preference helps in identification of juvenile specimens possessing thinner basidiocarps and smaller basidiospores which otherwise can be mixed up with other effused non-poroid representatives of the genus.

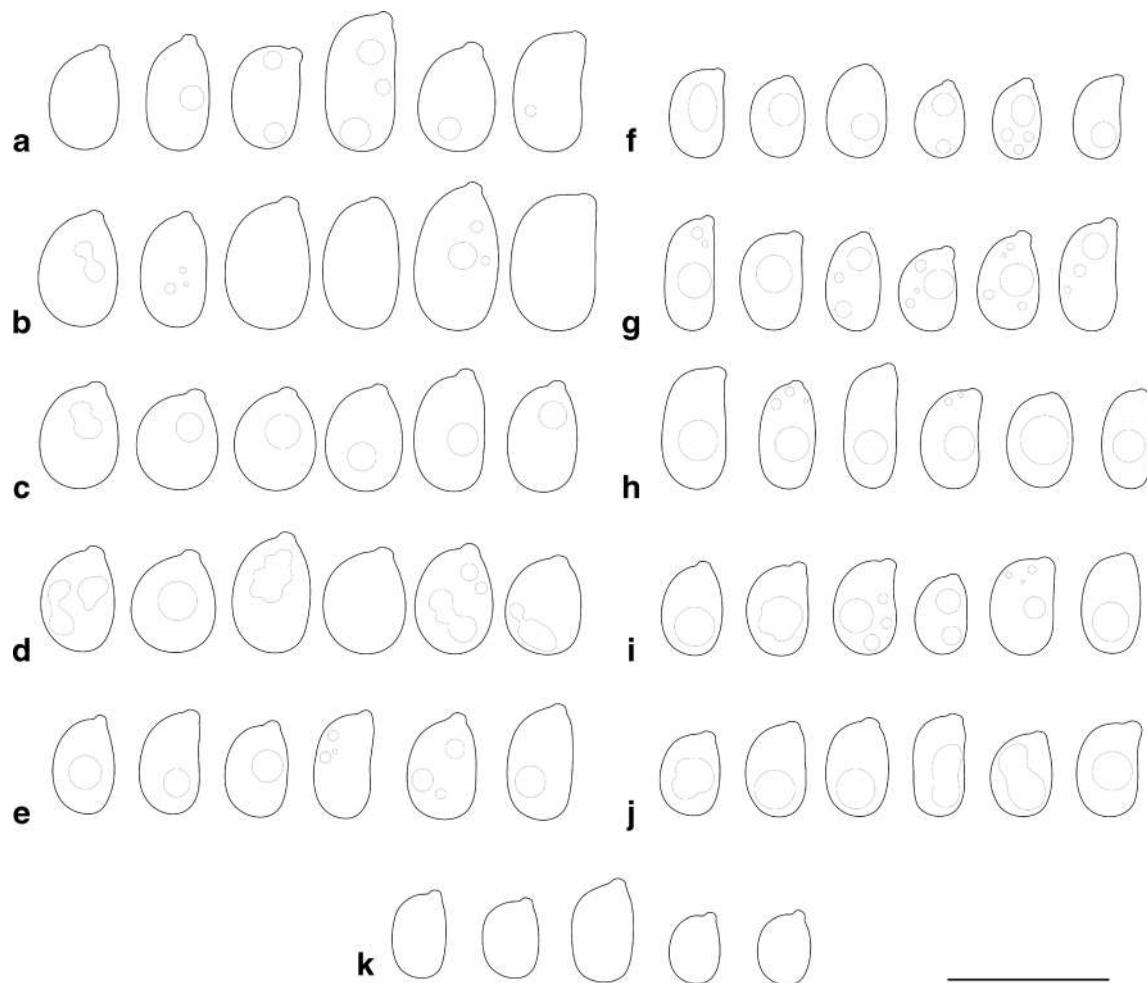
***Protomerulius commotus* Spirin & V. Malysheva, sp. nov.**—Figs. 6f and 8.

MB 830955

**Holotype.** Norway. Vestfold: Larvik, Jordstøyp i Kvelde, *Ulmus glabra*, 15.IX.2016 Spirin 11097 (O).

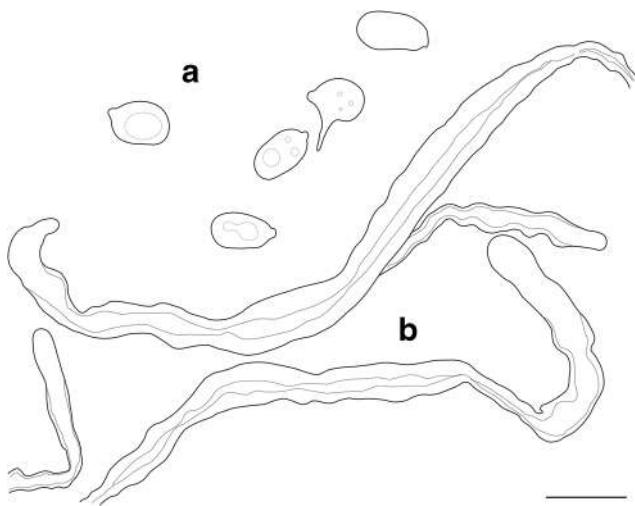
**Etymology.** Commotus (Lat., adj.)—unsteady, dubious.

Basidiocarps effused, smooth, first reticulate, semitranslucent, greyish in fresh condition, then at least partly continuous, dirty-brownish when old or dry, gelatinized, up to 2 cm in widest dimension, 0.05–0.1 mm thick, margin concolorous with hymenium, gradually thinning-out.



**Fig. 6** Basidiospores of *Protomerulius* spp.: **a** *Protomerulius dubius* (lectotype); **b** *H. dubia* f. *crassior* (lectotype); **c** – *P. brachysporus* (isotype); **d** *H. dubia* f. *sphaerospora* (lectotype); **e** *P. hebes* (holotype); **f** *P. commotus* (holotype); **g** *P. madidus* (holotype); **h** *P. pertusus* (holotype); **i** *P. subreflexus* (Miettinen 14402.1); **j** *P. substuppeus* (Vlasák 1407/38); **k** *P. brasiliensis* (lectotype). Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m

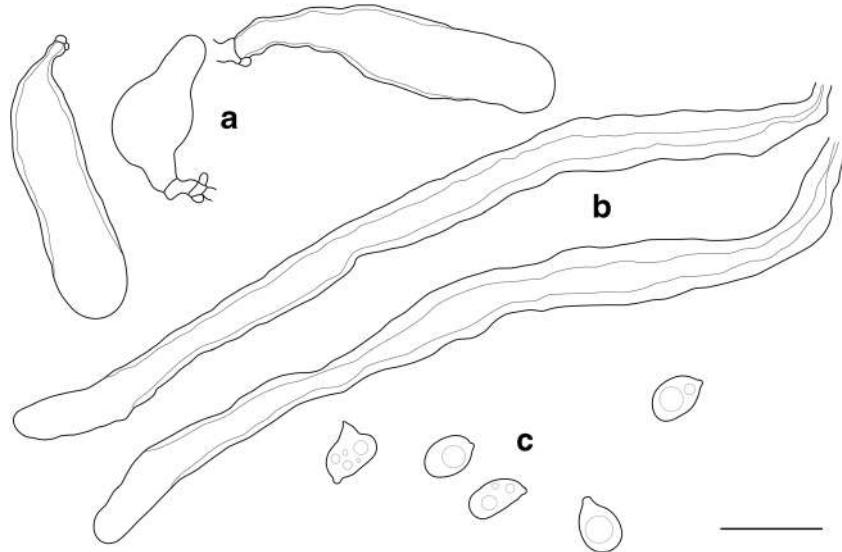
Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, subicular hyphae with distinct walls, subparallel and densely packed,



**Fig. 7** *Protomerulius brachysporus* (Vehmaa 2600): **a** basidiospores; **b** cystidia. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m

1–2  $\mu$ m in diam., subhymenial hyphae thin-walled, 2–3  $\mu$ m in diam., often short-celled, densely glued together. Tramal cystidia abundant, hyaline or very pale brownish, tubular-clavate, sturdy, with thickened (up to 2.5  $\mu$ m) walls gradually thinning-out towards the apical part, longest cystidia slightly tapering to or widened at the apex (thin-walled apical parts often collapsing), (64.5–) 65–149 (–154)  $\times$  (5.1–) 5.2–7.7 (–7.8)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 24/2), solitary or more often in groups of 2–8, often biradicate; hymenial cystidia hyaline, broadly clavate, thin- or slightly thick-walled, 16.5–50  $\times$  4.2–8.2  $\mu$ m, distributed mostly solitary or rarely associated with tramal cystidia. Hyphidia present, normally associated with cystidia, 1–1.5  $\mu$ m in diam. at the apex, thin-walled. Crystals occasionally present on hyphidia and cystidia, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 7–9  $\times$  6–7.5  $\mu$ m; stipe up to 6  $\times$  2.5  $\mu$ m, sterigmata up to 8  $\times$  2–2.5  $\mu$ m. Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to broadly ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid, (4.3–) 4.4–6.2 (–6.3)  $\times$  (3.0–) 3.2–4.1 (–4.2)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 60/2),  $L$  = 5.24–5.51,  $W$  = 3.45–3.51,  $Q'$  = (1.3–) 1.4–1.7 (–1.9),  $Q$  = 1.50–1.61.

**Fig. 8** *Protomerulius commotus* (holotype): **a** hymenial cystidia; **b** tramal cystidia; **c** basidiospores.  
Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m



**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Norway); on rotten wood of *Ulmus glabra*. So far known from the type locality only.

**Remarks.** *Protomerulius commotus* produces thin, smooth, gelatinized basidiocarps almost invisible in dry condition. Both morphologically and phylogenetically, it is close to *P. madidus* (introduced below). Basidiospores of *P. commotus* are smaller than in most collections of *P. madidus* studied by us albeit their variation ranges are overlapping. The best microscopic character for separating the two species is a presence of thin-walled, broadly clavate hymenial cystidia in *P. commotus*. In senescent hymenium, they often collapse and leave large empty cavities among hymenial cells; this feature has never been observed in *P. madidus*.

***Protomerulius dubius* (Bourd. & Galzin) Spirin & V. Malysheva, comb. nov.**—Fig. 6a.

MB 830957.

≡ *Heterochaete dubia* Bourd. & Galzin, Bull. Soc. Mycol. France 25: 30, 1909. Lectotype. France. Aveyron: Millau, Trou d'Enfer, *Fraxinus excelsior*, 18.IV.1907 Galzin 2022 (herb. Bourdot 4579) (PC, studied) (selected by Roberts 1998: 216).

Basidiocarps effused, smooth or covered by minute, irregularly arranged warts, first floccose, reticulate, white or cream-colored, then continuous, pale ochraceous to brownish, with darker gelatinized spots on hymenial surface, older basidiocarps gelatinized, waxy, dirty-brownish but exposing irregularly distributed whitish floccose patches, up to 3 cm in widest dimension, 0.05–0.1 mm thick, margin narrow, concolorous with or slightly paler than hymenial surface, pruinose.

Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, subcircular hyphae with distinct walls, 1–2  $\mu$ m in diam., subhymenial

hyphae thin- or only slightly thick-walled, 2–3  $\mu$ m in diam. Tramal cystidia abundant, brownish, tubular-clavate, flexuous, easily breaking apart, with thickened (up to 1–2.5  $\mu$ m) walls gradually thinning-out to the apex, (63–) 70–94 (–112)  $\times$  (3.8–) 4.1–8.7 (–8.8)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 20/2), normally glued in fascicles of 2–8; hymenial cystidia absent. Hyphidia occasionally present, 1–2  $\mu$ m in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, simple or sparsely branched. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hyphidia, acicular or more often arranged in stellate agglomerations up to 12  $\mu$ m in diam. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 8–9  $\times$  6–8  $\mu$ m; stipe up to 6  $\times$  3  $\mu$ m, sterig mata up to 7.5  $\times$  2–2.5  $\mu$ m. Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid, (5.1–) 5.2–8.0 (–8.2)  $\times$  (3.3–) 3.7–4.7 (–4.8)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 150/5),  $L$  = 5.85–6.37,  $W$  = 3.98–4.20,  $Q'$  = (1.1–) 1.2–2.0 (–2.1),  $Q$  = 1.46–1.55.

**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Estonia, Finland, France, Russia); on rotten wood of deciduous trees (*Alnus*, *Fagus*, *Fraxinus*, *Populus*).

**Remarks.** Bourdot & Galzin (1909) described this species from the southern part of France and then introduced a number of varieties and forms (Bourd. & Galzin 1928). Of them, only *H. dubia* var. *dasychaeta* represents *H. dubia* sensu orig. (Reid 1990), and it was typified by Roberts (1998). In turn, *Heterochaetella dubia* var. *dasychaeta* f. *sphaerospora*, as well as two forms of var. *mesochaeta* (f. *brachyspora* and f. *crassior*) belong to *Protomerulius brachysporus* (see above) while var. *psilochaeta* is *Mycostilla vermiciformis* (Berk. & Broome) Spirin & V. Malysheva (Spirin et al. 2019a).

*Protomerulius dubius* is most similar to *P. pertusus*, but it differs in having slightly wider basidiospores and clearly broader cystidia. Macroscopically, juvenile basidiocarps of these species are confusingly similar, being floccose and almost white. However, at maturity, they certainly look different when the hymenium of *P. dubius* obtains strongly gelatinized

and darker colored areas while *P. pertusus* remains almost unchanged.

***Protomerulius hebes*** Spirin & Ryvarden, sp. nov.—Fig. 6e.

MB 830958

Holotype. Ethiopia. Oromia: Arussi, Munessa Forest, hard-wood, 15.VII.1990 Ryvarden 28406 (O F-903270, isotype H).

Etymology. Hebes (Lat., adj.)—faded.

Basidiocarps effused, smooth or covered by minute, irregularly arranged warts, floccose, reticulate, white to pale cream-colored or greyish, only partly slightly gelatinized, up to 2 cm in widest dimension, 0.05–0.1 mm thick, margin narrow, concolorous with hymenial surface, gradually thinning-out.

Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, subcircular hyphae thin- or slightly thick-walled, subparallel, 1.5–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., subhymenial hyphae thin-walled, short-celled, 1.5–3  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. Tramal cystidia abundant, hyaline to brownish, tubular-clavate, with thickened (up to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ ) walls gradually thinning-out to the apex, (58) 69–90 (–111)  $\times$  (3.2–) 3.3–4.3 (–4.8)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 14/1$ ), normally in fascicles of 3–15; hymenial cystidia thin-walled, tubular-clavate, somewhat tapering to the apex, some with refractive cyanophilous content (gloeocystidia), 20–36  $\times$  4–7.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , distributed mostly solitary or rarely associated with tramal cystidia. Hyphidia occasionally present, 1–1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, mostly associated with cystidia. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hyphidia, arranged in stellate agglomerations up to 20  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 9–10  $\times$  7–8  $\mu\text{m}$ ; stipe up to 6  $\times$  3  $\mu\text{m}$ , sterigmata up to 7  $\times$  2.5–3  $\mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to narrowly ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid, (5.5–) 5.6–7.0 (–7.1)  $\times$  (3.1–) 3.2–4.1 (–4.2)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 30/1$ ),  $L = 6.21$ ,  $W = 3.68$ ,  $Q' = (1.5–) 1.6–1.9$  (–2.2),  $Q = 1.69$ .

**Fig. 9** *Protomerulius madidus* (Larsson 17664): **a** basidiospores; **b** cystidia and crystals; **c** basidium. Scale bar = 10  $\mu\text{m}$

Distribution and ecology. Africa (Ethiopia); on rotten wood of deciduous tree. So far known from the type locality only.

Remarks. Due to soft, floccose basidiocarps, *Protomerulius hebes* is reminiscent of *P. pertusus*. However, it produces abundant hymenial cystidia similar to those of *P. commotus*, and its tramal cystidia are shorter and somewhat narrower than in *P. pertusus*.

***Protomerulius madidus*** Spirin & K.H. Larss., sp. nov.—Figs. 4c, d, 6g, and 9.

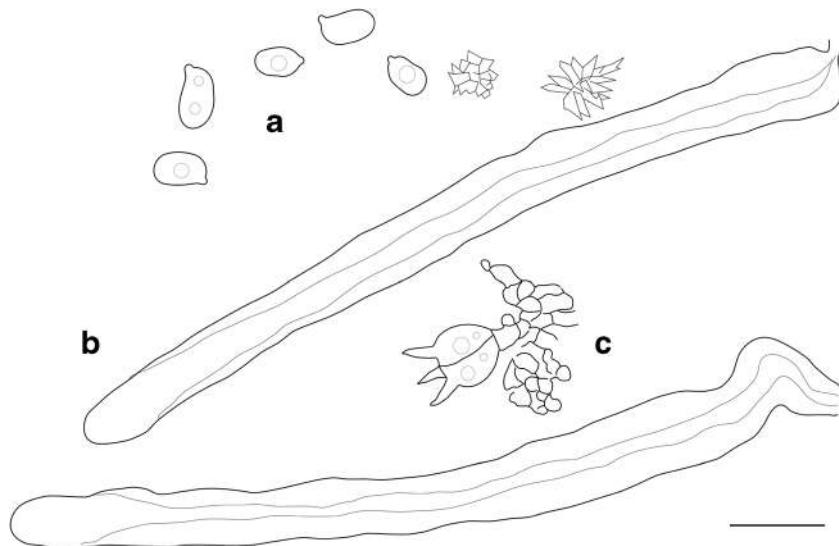
MB 830959

Holotype. Norway. Buskerud: Lier, Stokkerinden, *Ulmus glabra*, 29.IX.2018 Spirin 12492 (O, isotypes—H, LE).

Etymology. Madidus (Lat., adj.)—humid.

Basidiocarps effused, smooth, first reticulate but quickly turning to continuous, semitranslucent, bluish-greyish in fresh condition, dirty-brownish when old or dry, with occasional craters, gelatinized, up to 5 cm in widest dimension, 0.07–0.2 mm thick, margin concolorous with hymenium, gradually thinning-out; tiny white spots often present in mature basidiocarps, irregularly spread on hymenial surface.

Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, thin-walled, 1.5–3  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., in subhymenium often short-celled and densely glued together. Tramal cystidia abundant, hyaline or very pale brownish, tubular-clavate, sturdy, with thickened (up to 4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) walls gradually thinning-out towards the apical part, longest cystidia slightly tapering to the apex, (62) 67–184 (–208)  $\times$  (4.2–) 4.8–10.4 (–12.0)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 168/15$ ), solitary or in groups of 2–6, occasionally bi- or multiradiculate; hymenial cystidia absent. Hyphidia present, normally associated with cystidia, 1–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, occasionally producing hyphal pegs up to 70  $\times$  20  $\mu\text{m}$ . Crystals present, encrusting basal hyphae but sometimes occurring on hyphidia and cystidia, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations, in some collections rare or evidently



absent. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate,  $7.5–10 \times 6.5–8 \mu\text{m}$ ; stipe up to  $6 \times 3.5 \mu\text{m}$ , sterigmata up to  $7 \times 2–2.5 \mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid,  $(4.3–) 4.8–8.2 (–8.8) \times (2.9–) 3.1–4.3 (–4.6) \mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 570/19$ ),  $L = 5.32–7.15$ ,  $W = 3.45–3.96$ ,  $Q' = (1.3–) 1.4–2.3 (–2.4)$ ,  $Q = 1.48–2.04$ .

**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Estonia, Norway, Ukraine); on rotten wood of deciduous trees (*Alnus*, *Betula*, *Fraxinus*, *Ulmus*).

**Remarks.** *Protomerulius madidus* is characterized by thin, hygroscopic basidiocarps becoming rather tough and almost invisible in dry condition. Macroscopically, it is indistinguishable from the closely related *P. commotus*; their microscopic differences are discussed under the latter species. *Protomerulius brachysporus* also possesses gelatinized basidiocarps but they are thicker and well-visible when dry. Additionally, *P. brachysporus* is restricted to coniferous hosts, and it has fragile, apically collapsing cystidia, as well as wider basidiospores. Senescent basidiocarps of *P. dubius* are often partly gelatinized and thus can be mixed up with *P. madidus* but they are essentially softer, waxy. Moreover, cystidia of *P. dubius* easily break in microscopic slides and its basidiospores are on average slightly wider than in *P. madidus*.

***Protomerulius microsporus* (Burt) Spirin & V. Malysheva, comb. nov.**—Fig. 10.

MB 830960

≡ *Heterochaete microspora* Burt, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gdn 8: 376, 1921. Holotype. Mexico. Vera Cruz: Córdoba, Motzorongo, 15.I.1910 Murrill 990 (NY 00738344, studied).

Basidiocarps effused, first warty, floccose, pale cream-colored, then continuous, distinctly hydnoid, covered by spine-like projections up to  $400 \mu\text{m}$  long, 3–5 per mm, ceraceous, pale ochraceous to greyish, slightly gelatinized, up to 4 cm in widest dimension, 0.1–0.3 mm thick, margin narrow, concolorous with hymenial surface, floccose or compact, partly detaching.

**Fig. 10** *Protomerulius microsporus* (Ryvarden 23440): **a** gloeocystidia; **b** basidia; **c** tramal cystidia and crystals; **d** basidiospores. Scale bar = 10  $\mu\text{m}$

Hyphal structure dimitic; hyphae clamped. Skeletal hyphae hyaline to brownish, slightly to distinctly thick-walled (wall up to 2  $\mu\text{m}$  thick), flexuous,  $(1.8–) 1.9–3.8 (–3.9) \mu\text{m}$  in diam. ( $n = 20/1$ ); generative hyphae dominating, thin- or only slightly thick-walled,  $1.5–3 \mu\text{m}$  in diam., subparallel in subiculum, ascending in subhymenium. Tramal cystidia present as endings of skeletal hyphae at the apices of spines, with thickened, gradually thinning-out walls,  $4–7 \mu\text{m}$  in diam., accidentally branched at the top, intermixed with generative hyphae in large fascicles; gloeocystidia abundant in senescent hymenium, clavate to somewhat moniliform, yellowish,  $12–23 \times 3–6.5 \mu\text{m}$ . Hyphidia occasionally present,  $1.5–2.5 \mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, embedded or slightly projecting. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hyphidia, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate,  $8.5–10 \times 7–9 \mu\text{m}$ ; stipe up to  $9 \times 3 \mu\text{m}$ , sterigmata up to  $8.5 \times 1.5–3 \mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores narrowly to broadly ellipsoid, rarely subglobose,  $(4.4–) 4.7–6.7 (–6.8) \times (3.7–) 3.8–5.0 (–5.1) \mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 60/2$ ),  $L = 5.41–6.10$ ,  $W = 4.14–4.39$ ,  $Q' = (1.1–) 1.2–1.6 (–1.7)$ ,  $Q = 1.24–1.48$ .

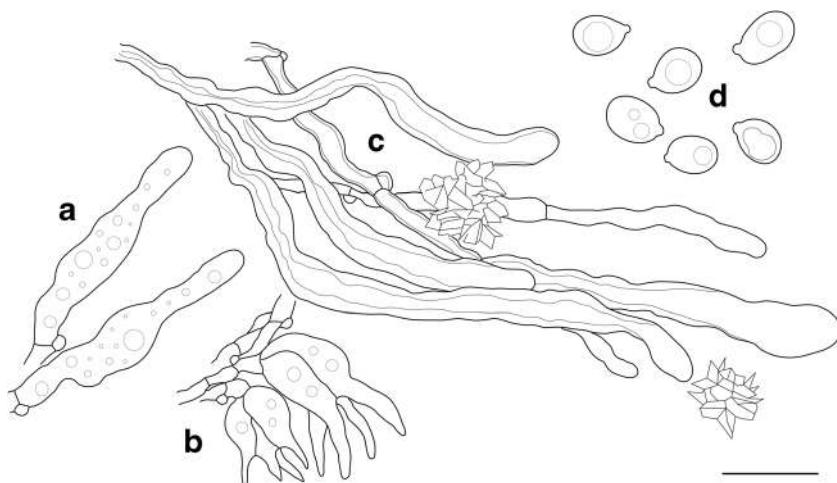
**Distribution and ecology.** North America (Mexico—Vera Cruz); on rotten wood.

**Remarks.** Distinctly dimitic basidiocarps with pronounced spines differentiate *P. microsporus* from other effused members of the genus. The species is so far known from the central part of Mexico, but its actual distribution area may be much larger.

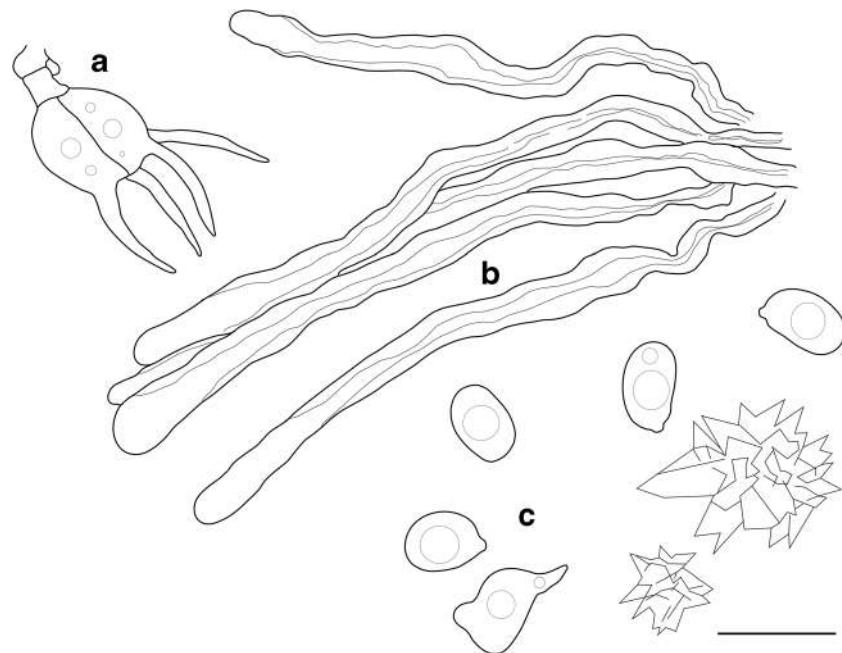
***Protomerulius minor* (Möller) Spirin & Miettinen, comb. nov.**—Figs. 4b and 11.

MB 830961

≡ *Stypella minor* Möller, Bot. Mitth. Tropen 8: 77, 1895. Lectotype. Table 4, Fig. 7 in A. Möller, Bot. Mitth. Tropen 8, 1895 (selected here, MBT 387042). Epitype. Brazil. Pernambuco: Jaqueira, RPPN Frei Caneca, hardwood, 19.IV.2013 Larsson 15937 (O) (selected here, MBT 387043).



**Fig. 11** *Protomerulius minor* (Miettinen 19586): **a** basidium; **b** cystidia; **c** basidiospores. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m



Basidiocarps effused, more or less regularly hydnoid, covered by spine-like projections up to 150  $\mu$ m long, 3–5 per mm, first floccose, reticulate, pale cream-colored, then more compact but with craters or holes, pale ochraceous to greyish, partly gelatinized, up to 7 cm in widest dimension, 0.05–0.15 mm thick, margin narrow, concolorous with or slightly paler than hymenial surface, gradually thinning-out.

Hyphal structure dimitic; hyphae clamped. Skeletal hyphae hyaline to brownish, slightly to distinctly thick-walled (wall up to 2  $\mu$ m thick), flexuous, (2.2–) 2.3–3.8 (–3.9)  $\mu$ m in diam. ( $n = 20/2$ ); generative hyphae dominating, thin- or only slightly thick-walled, 1.5–2  $\mu$ m in diam., more or less subparallel in subiculum, interwoven in subhymenium. Tramal cystidia present as endings of skeletal hyphae at the apices of spines, with thickened, gradually thinning-out walls, projecting up to 50  $\mu$ m, 4–6  $\mu$ m in diam., in groups of 5–25; hymenial cystidia absent. Hyphidia occasionally present, 1–1.5  $\mu$ m in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, scattered among basidia. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hyphidia, acicular or arranged in large stellate agglomerations up to 15  $\mu$ m in diam. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 8–11  $\times$  7–9  $\mu$ m; stipe up to 5  $\times$  3  $\mu$ m, sterigmata up to 10  $\times$  2.5–3  $\mu$ m. Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to broadly ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid, (4.9–) 5.0–8.0 (–8.2)  $\times$  (3.0–) 3.2–5.0 (–5.2)  $\mu$ m ( $n = 170/6$ ),  $L = 5.87$ –7.06,  $W = 3.88$ –4.30,  $Q' = (1.2–) 1.3$ –2.2 (–2.3),  $Q = 1.49$ –1.83.

**Distribution and ecology.** North America (USA—Arkansas, New York, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Virginia), South America (Brazil—Pernambuco, Santa Catarina); on dead wood of deciduous trees at various decomposition stages.

**Remarks.** Möller (1895) described *Stypella minor* from Brazil but the authentic material did not survive in Hamburg where some of his types were preserved (Friedrichsen 1977). His description refers to a resupinate fungus with papillose (under lens) hymenial surface and dimitic hyphal system (“aus sehr feinen, locker verwirrten Fäden gebildet, zwischen denen bündelartig angeordnet ... starke Fäden verlaufen”); the hymenophoral projections consist of cystidia-like endings of skeletal hyphae (Möller 1895: 77, Table 4, Fig. 7). These features, as well as basidia and basidiospores of *S. minor* as described in the protologue, well correspond to the hydnoid *Protomerulius* species widely distributed in North America and occurring also in Brazil. Therefore, we decided to use Möller’s binomial for naming it. Here we combine *S. minor* in *Protomerulius*, designate the original illustration as a lectotype of this species and provide it with an epitype.

***Protomerulius pertusus* V. Malysheva & Spirin, sp. nov.—  
Figs. 6h and 12.**

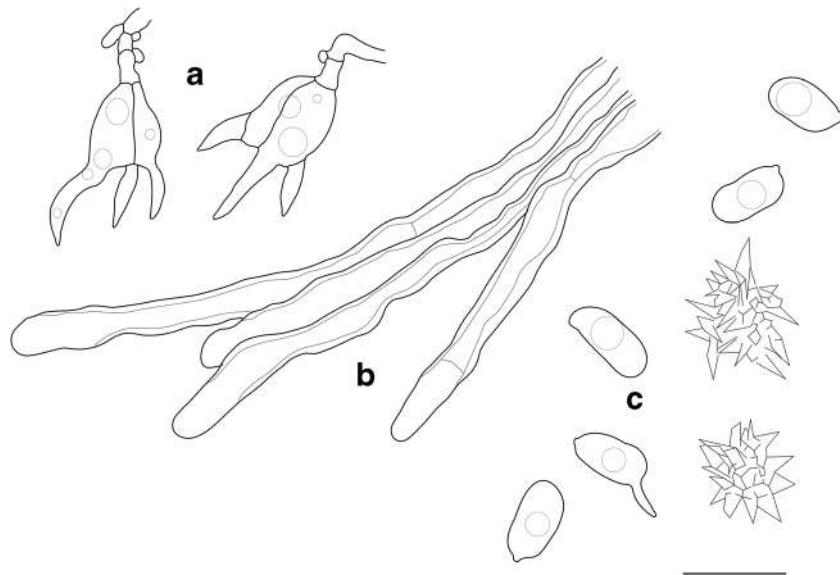
MB 830962

**Holotype.** Norway. Møre og Romsdal: Nesset, Eikesdalen, *Ulmus glabra*, 16.IX.2014 Svantesson (O F75913).

**Etymology.** Pertusus (Lat., adj.)—pertusate.

Basidiocarps effused, smooth or covered by minute, irregularly arranged warts, first floccose, reticulate, white or pale cream-colored, then more compact but with craters or holes, pale ochraceous to greyish, in some parts only slightly gelatinized, up to 7 cm in widest dimension, 0.07–0.15 mm thick, margin narrow, concolorous with hymenial surface, gradually thinning-out.

**Fig. 12** *Protomerulius pertusus* (holotype): **a** basidia; **b** cystidia; **c** basidiospores. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m



Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, thin- or only slightly thick-walled, 1.5–2.5 (–3)  $\mu$ m in diam., subparallel in subiculum, ascending in subhymenium. Tramal cystidia abundant, hyaline to brownish, tubular-clavate, flexuous, with thickened (up to 1–1.5  $\mu$ m) walls gradually thinning-out to the apex, (59–) 60–113 (–140)  $\times$  (3.7–) 3.8–5.2 (–5.3)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 20/2), normally in groups of 3–10; hymenial cystidia absent. Hyphidia occasionally present, 1.5–2  $\mu$ m in diam. at the apex, thin-walled, simple or sparsely branched. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hyphidia, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations up to 15  $\mu$ m in diam. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 8–10  $\times$  7–9  $\mu$ m; stipe up to 6  $\times$  3  $\mu$ m, sterigmata up to 8.5  $\times$  2–2.5  $\mu$ m. Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to narrowly ellipsoid, more rarely lacrymoid, (5.0–) 5.1–8.1 (–8.2)  $\times$  (3.1–) 3.2–4.5 (–4.6)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 150/5),  $L$  = 5.95–6.96,  $W$  = 3.49–3.89,  $Q'$  = (1.2–) 1.3–2.2 (–2.5),  $Q$  = 1.56–1.94.

**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Norway, Russia); on rotten wood of deciduous trees (*Corylus*, *Quercus*, *Ulmus*).

**Remarks.** The soft, pale, arid basidiocarps of *P. pertusus* make it different from other species occurring in Europe. Microscopically, it is most similar to *P. dubius*; their differences have been discussed under the latter species. So far, *P. pertusus* has been detected in two localities—both are rich forests dominated by broad-leaved trees and famous for a high diversity of wood-inhabiting basidiomycetes.

***Protomerulius subreflexus* (Lloyd) Miettinen & Ryvarden, comb. nov.**—Figs. 4e and 6i.

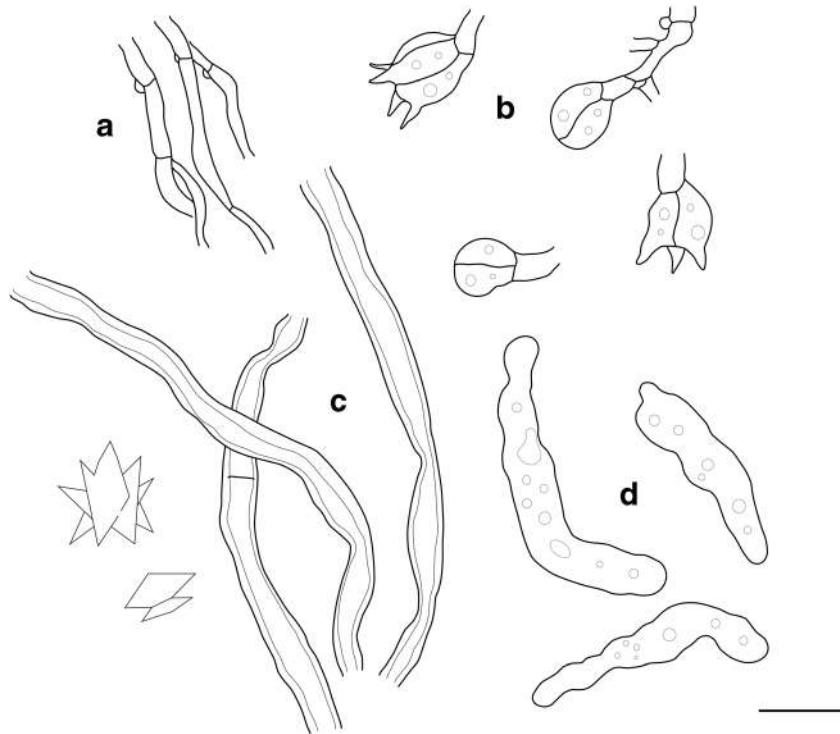
MB 830963

≡ *Polystictus subreflexus* Lloyd, Mycol. Writings 6: 884, 1919. Lectotype. Philippines. Luzon: Mt. Maquiling, dead wood, 23.IX.1917 Marquez & Reinking (BPI 306707, studied) (selected by Stevenson & Cash 1936: 139).

Basidiocarps sessile-pileate to effused-reflexed (projecting part 0.3–1 cm) or totally resupinate, often partly fusing together. Pileal surface floccose, pale cream-colored to pale ochraceous, rarely indistinctly zonate. Pileal margin sharp to rather blunt, even, concolorous with pileal surface; margin of resupinate part pellicular-floccose, first almost white, then pale cream-colored to pale ochraceous, up to 1 mm wide. Pore surface even, pale cream-colored or yellowish to pale ochraceous, in older basidiocarps with scattered brownish spots; pores angular to lacerate, 2–4 per mm, dissepiments even to somewhat serrate. Section: context 0.5–1 mm thick, homogeneous, pale cream-colored to pale ochraceous, cottony; tubes soft, 1–3 mm thick, concolorous with pore surface.

Hyphal structure dimitic; hyphae clamped. Skeletal hyphae hyaline to yellowish, dominating, flexuous, interwoven throughout, in context sometimes arranged in subparallel bundles, with distinctly thickened (up to 1–1.5  $\mu$ m) walls, as a rule not encrusted, (2.7–) 2.8–4.2 (–4.3)  $\mu$ m in diam. in context ( $n$  = 20/2), (2.0–) 2.2–3.7 (–3.8)  $\mu$ m in diam. in tube trama ( $n$  = 120/4); apices of skeletals at dissepiment edges thin-walled, 5–5.5  $\mu$ m in diam. Generative hyphae hyaline, thin- or slightly thick-walled, short-celled in subhymenium, 1.5–3.5  $\mu$ m in diam., in context accidentally inflated up to 6  $\mu$ m in diam. Gloecystidia present, thin-walled, tapering, 20–26  $\times$  3.5–5.5  $\mu$ m. Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hymenial cells, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations, up to 20  $\mu$ m in widest dimension. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 6.5–8.5  $\times$  5–7.5  $\mu$ m; stipe up to 7  $\times$  2.5  $\mu$ m, sterigmata up to 4  $\times$  1.5–2  $\mu$ m. Basidiospores ellipsoid to cylindrical, more rarely lacrymoid or almost subglobose, (4.7–) 4.8–7.1 (–7.2)  $\times$  (3.2–) 3.5–4.9 (–5.0)  $\mu$ m ( $n$  = 120/4),  $L$  = 5.62–6.29,  $W$  = 3.96–4.20,  $Q'$  = (1.1–) 1.2–1.8 (–1.9),  $Q$  = 1.40–1.51.

**Fig. 13** *Protomerulius brasiliensis* (syntype): **a** generative hyphae; **b** basidia; **c** tramal skeletal hyphae; **d** gloeocystidia. Scale bar = 10  $\mu\text{m}$



**Distribution and ecology.** Southeast Asia (China, Philippines, Indonesia); on fallen branches and logs of deciduous trees.

**Remarks.** *Protomerulius subreflexus* is the Asian sibling of *P. substuppeus* reintroduced here based on the type material and several recent collections used for DNA study. These species are morphologically almost indistinguishable, except that contextual and tramal hyphae of *P. subreflexus* are narrower than in *P. substuppeus*.

***Protomerulius substuppeus* (Berk. & Cooke) Ryvarden, Syn. Fung. 5: 212, 1991.—Figs. 4f, 6j, k, and 13.**

≡ *Polyporus substuppeus* Berk. & Cooke, Bot. J. Linnean Soc. 15: 380, 1876. Lectotype. Brazil, (no exact locality indicated), dead wood, 1874, Trail 123 (K(M) 35121, studied) (selected by Ryvarden 1984: 358).

= *Protomerulius brasiliensis* Möller, Bot. Mitth. Tropen 8: 129, 1895. Lectotype. Brazil. Santa Catarina: Blumenau, *Jacaratia dodecaphylla* (recently fallen branches), 1891–1893 Möller 23 (HBG, studied) (selected by Bandoni et al. 1982: 1003).

Basidiocarps sessile-pileate to effused-reflexed (projecting part 0.5–3 cm) or totally resupinate, often in gregarious groups and partly fusing together. Pileal surface indistinctly striate or radially fibrillose, first pale cream-colored to pale ochraceous, later darkening to brownish. Pileal margin sharp to rather blunt, even or slightly undulating, concolorous with pileal surface; margin of resupinate part pellicular-floccose, first almost white, then pale cream-colored to ochraceous or

brownish, up to 2 mm wide. Pore surface even, pale cream-colored to ochraceous, in older or bruised basidiocarps with reddish-brown tints, in older basidiocarps uniformly brownish; pores angular to lacerate, first 3–5 per mm, then fusing together and reaching 1–3 per mm, dissepiments uneven to serrate. Section: context 1–5 mm thick, duplex, pale cream-colored to brownish, upper layer rather loose and more intensively colored than firmer lower layer, resinous zone occasionally present close to the tube layer; tubes soft, slightly agglutinated, 1–5 mm thick, concolorous with pore surface.

Hyphal structure dimitic; hyphae clamped. Skeletal hyphae hyaline to brownish, dominating, flexuous, interwoven or arranged in subparallel bundles in context, more or less strictly subparallel in tubes, with distinctly thickened (up to 1–1.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) walls, sometimes covered by amorphous grainy matter, (3.8–) 3.9–5.8 (–6.8)  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. in context ( $n = 20/1$ ), (2.2–) 2.4–5.6 (–5.8)  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. in tube trama ( $n = 80/4$ ); apices of skeletals at dissepiment edges thin-walled, 5–6.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., sometimes with refractive contents. Generative hyphae hyaline, thin- or slightly thick-walled, short-celled in subhymenium, 1.5–3  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. Gloeocystidia present, thin-walled, tapering or somewhat moniliform, 20–46  $\times$  4–7  $\mu\text{m}$ . Crystals abundant, encrusting hyphae and hymenial cells, acicular or arranged in stellate agglomerations, up to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  in widest dimension. Basidia 4-celled, sphaeropedunculate, 7–9  $\times$  6–7.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ; stipe up to 7  $\times$  3.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , sterigmata up to 7  $\times$  2.5–3  $\mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores narrowly ellipsoid to cylindrical, more rarely lacrymoid or ovoid,

(4.1–) 4.2–8.2 (–8.9)  $\times$  (3.0–) 3.2–4.9 (–5.0)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 210/7$ ),  $L = 5.05–7.15$ ,  $W = 3.62–4.42$ ,  $Q' = (1.2–) 1.3–2.1$  (–2.2),  $Q = 1.34–1.76$ .

**Distribution and ecology.** Africa (Uganda), North America (Costa Rica, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands), South America (Argentina, Misiones; Brazil, Paraná, Santa Catarina); on fallen branches and logs of deciduous trees.

**Remarks.** Bandoni et al. (1982) re-established *P. brasiliensis* as a resupinate fungus. Their opinion evidently originated from the photographs published by Möller (1895). An absence of caps is the only difference between *P. brasiliensis* and *P. substuppeus* treated in the current literature (cf. Ryvarden 2016). However, Möller himself described *P. brasiliensis* as producing caps (“consolenförmig abstehende”; Möller 1895: 131), and his two authentic collections in HBG contain several well-developed effused-reflexed or even sessile basidiocarps. Since we found no morphological characters to separate *P. brasiliensis* and *P. substuppeus*, we consider them as taxonomic synonyms. *Protomerulius substuppeus* was also described from Brazil, and it has priority over *P. brasiliensis*. Identity of *P. substuppeus* versus *P. africanus* (described from Kenya) deserves further study. The only African collection used in the present study came from Uganda. It is morphologically identical to other specimens of *P. substuppeus* studied by us and shows only small differences in ITS sequence. However, more material and *tef1* sequences of *P. africanus* are required to conclude if it represents a separate species.

**Key to non-poroid *Protomerulius* species in temperate Northern Hemisphere**

1. On deciduous trees. Basidiocarps floccose or waxy ... 2
- (1). On conifers. Basidiocarps waxy or gelatinized, greyish to ochraceous-brown ..... *P. brachysporus*
2. Basidiocarps semitranslucent when fresh, hardly visible when dry ..... 3
- (2). Basidiocarps floccose or waxy, remaining visible in dry condition ..... 4
3. Hymenial cystidia present, broadly clavate.  $L = 5.24–5.51$  ..... *P. commotus*
- (3). Hymenial cystidia absent.  $L = 5.32–7.15$  ..... *P. madidus*
4. Hymenophore smooth or indistinctly warted. European species ..... 5
- (4). Hymenophore hydnoid. North American species ..... *P. minor*
5. Basidiocarps remaining pale-colored and floccose.  $W = 3.49–3.89$  ..... *P. pertusus*
- (5). Basidiocarps first pale-colored, floccose, then darker and partly gelatinized.  $W = 3.98–4.20$  ..... *P. dubius*

### *Psilochaete* Spirin & V. Malysheva, gen. nov.

MB 830964

**Etymology.** From *Psilos* (Greek, adj.)—eminent, and “-chaete.”

Basidiocarps effused, smooth, reticulate, semitranslucent, thin. Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, thin-walled. Cystidia abundant, clavate to skittle-like, thin-walled. Hyphidia present, crystal aggregations absent. Basidia 4-celled, globose, sessile or with a strongly reduced stipe. Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to narrowly ellipsoid. On rotten wood.

**Type species.** *Psilochaete multiflora*.

### *Psilochaete multiflora* Spirin & V. Malysheva, sp. nov.—

Fig. 14.

MB 830965.

**Holotype.** Norway. Møre og Romsdal: Nesset, Eikesdalen, *Ulmus glabra*, 27.IX.2017 Spirin 11596 (O, isotypes H and LE).

**Etymology.** Multiforus (Lat., adj.)—perforated.

Basidiocarps effused, smooth, reticulate, semitranslucent, bluish-greyish in fresh condition, greyish-brownish when old or dry, gelatinized, up to 1 cm in widest dimension, 0.03–0.05 mm thick, margin concolorous with hymenium, gradually thinning-out.

Hyphal structure monomitic; hyphae clamped, thin-walled, 1–1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., densely arranged. Cystidia abundant, clavate to skittle-like, thin-walled, 32–48  $\times$  4.5–7.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , solitary or in groups of 2–5. Hyphidia present, normally associated with cystidia, 0.5–0.8  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. at the apex, thin-walled. Crystals absent. Basidia 4-celled, globose, 7–8  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., sessile or with a strongly reduced stipe up to 1  $\times$  1  $\mu\text{m}$ , sterig-mata up to 3.5  $\times$  1.5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Basidiospores broadly cylindrical to narrowly ellipsoid, (4.8–) 5.1–6.2  $\times$  (2.9–) 3.0–3.8 (–3.9)  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $n = 30/1$ ),  $L = 5.62$ ,  $W = 3.36$ ,  $Q' = (1.4–) 1.5–1.9$  (–2.0),  $Q = 1.68$ .

**Distribution and ecology.** Europe (Norway); on rotten wood of *Ulmus glabra*. So far known from the type locality only.

**Remarks.** From similar-looking effused *Protomerulius* spp., *P. multiflora* differs by considerably shorter, thin-walled cystidia and predominantly sessile basidia.

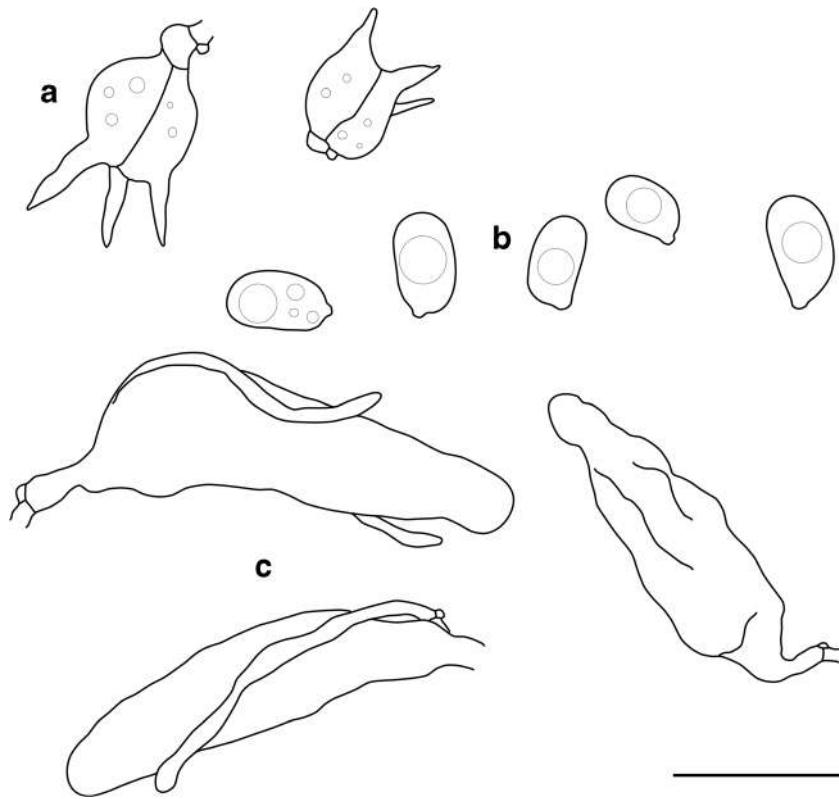
### Excluded taxa

*Heterochaetella alba* Rick, Iheringia Botanica 2: 42, 1958. Invalidly published species, no type indicated.

*Heterochaetella bispora* Luck-Allen, Canadian J. Bot. 38: 563, 1960.

The type specimen of *H. bispora* represents a juvenile individual of *Myxarium crozalci* (Bourdot & Galzin) Spirin & V. Malysheva infected by an anamorphic fungus (Spirin et al. 2019b).

**Fig. 14** *Psilochaete multifora* (holotype): **a** basidia; **b** basidiospores; **c** cystidia and hyphidia. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m



*Heterochaetella crystallina* Bourdot, Trans. British Mycol. Soc. 7: 53, 1921.

A synonym of *Mycostilla vermiformis* (Berk. & Broome) Spirin & V. Malysheva (Spirin et al. 2019a).

*Heterochaetella ochracea* Viégas, Bragantia 5: 241, 1945. Accepted as a member of *Eichleriella* (Alvarenga et al. 2019).

*Protohydnnum piceicola* Kühner ex Bourdot, Bull. Soc. Mycol. France 48: 205, 1932.

The type species of *Hyalodon* (Malysheva et al. 2018). The single collection located in Bourdot's herbarium and labelled by him as *P. piceicola* is selected here as a lectotype: Sweden. Uppland: Uppsala, Storvreta, *Picea abies*, 4.X.1927 Lundell 13 (herb. Bourdot 41808) (PC) (MBT 387044).

*Protomerulius farlowii* Burt, Annals Missouri Bot. Gdn. 6: 176, 1919.

Accepted as a member of *Stypellopsis* (Spirin et al. 2019a).

*Protomerulius javensis* Burt, Annals Missouri Bot. Gdn. 11: 41, 1924.

Coriaceous, dark-colored, semiporoid basidiocarps, large basidia and long cylindrical basidiospores described in the protologue (Burt 1924) preclude affinities of *P. javensis* with taxa included in the present study.

*Sebacina pruinosa* McNabb, New Zealand J. Bot. 7: 243, 1969.

According to the protologue (McNabb 1969), *S. pruinosa* may be related to *P. commotus* and *P. madidus*. Newly collected and sequenced specimens from New Zealand are needed to re-establish this species.

**Specimens examined** (sequenced collections are marked by asterisk).

*Heterochaetella bispora*. Canada. Ontario: Brant Co., New Durham, *Ulmus* sp., 30.VIII.1937 Cain (TRTC 17594).

*Metulochaete sanctae-catharinae*. Brazil. Acre: Cazumbá-Iracema Resex, hardwood, 30.I.2016 Meiras-Ottoni AM 0678\* (URM 93055, O, H); Floresta Nacional Macauã, Amazon Forest, dead wood, I.2016 Meiras-Ottoni AR22 (URM 93056, O, H).

*Protomerulius brachysporus*. Finland. Varsinaissuomi: Lohja, Osuniemi, *Picea abies*, 1.X.1937 Laurila (H ex HPP 1974). Uusimaa: Espoo, Glimså, *P. abies*, 21.IX.1999 Vehmaa 2600\* (H). France. Aveyron: Causse Noir, *Juniperus* sp., 30.XI.1913 Galzin 14648 (herb. Bourdot 13712) (PC), *Pinus* sp. (lectotypes of *Heterochaetella dubia* f. *crassior* and f. *sphaerospora*, see above). Var: Toulon (holotype, see below). Kyrgyzstan. Naryn: Moldo Too, *Picea schrenkiana*, 31.VII.1967 Raitviir (TAAM 044584). Mexico. Tlaxcala: Parada don Conejo, coniferous wood, 21.IX.1985 Ryvarden 23195\* (O). Norway. Oslo: Bygdøy, Holsts veg, 19.XI.1972 Høiland (O F165304). Buskerud: Modum, Askerrudbekken, *P. abies*, 13.X.2008 Høfton 08896\* (O).

F293193). Hedmark: Ringsaker, Helgøya, softwood, 17.X.1981 *Høgholen* 409/81 (O F102104). Russia. Krasnoyarsk Reg.: Yermakovsky Dist., Lobanova, *Abies sibirica*, 26.VIII.1958 *Parmasto* (TAAM 009126). Primorie: Terney Dist., Sikhote-Alin Nat. Res., *Abies nephrolepis*, 30.IX.1979 *Parmasto* (TAAM 102746\*). Slovenia: Prekmurje, Boreča, *Pinus nigra*, 23.III.1939 *Lindtner* 4861 (H ex O). Sweden. Norrbotten: Boden, Blåkolen, *P. abies*, 18.IX.2010 J. Nordén 6743\* (O). USA. Washington: Pierce Co., Pack Forest, *Thuja plicata* (bark of living branch), 10.X.2014 *Spirin* 8351c\* (H).

*Protomerulius commotus*. Norway. Vestfold: Larvik, Jordstøyp i Kvelde, *Ulmus glabra*, 15.IX.2016 *Spirin* 11097\* (O, holotype), *Spirin* 11110\* (O).

*Protomerulius dubius*. Estonia. Pärnumaa: Lääneranna, Hanila, very rotten log, 28.VI.1963 *Parmasto* (TAAM 016488). Finland. Sipoo: Östersundom, *Alnus glutinosa*, 2.VIII.1996 *Saarenoksa* 14396\* (H). France. Aveyron (lectotype, see below). Russia. Adygea: Maykop Dist., Guzeripl, *Fagus sylvatica*, 17.IX.2003 *Kotiranta* 22589 (H). Nizhny Novgorod Reg.: Lukoyanov Dist., Razino, *Populus tremula*, 18.VIII.2009 *Spirin* 3019\* (H).

*Protomerulius hebes*. Ethiopia. Oromia: Arssi, Munessa Forest, hardwood, 15.VII.1990 *Ryvarden* 28406\* (O, holotype).

*Protomerulius madidus*. Estonia. Valgamaa: Urgemägi, *Fraxinus excelsior*, 14.IX.2015 *Spirin* 9845\* (H). Norway. Vestfold: Larvik, Jordstøyp i Kvelde, *Ulmus glabra*, 15.IX.2016 *Spirin* 11094\*, 11102\*, 11108\* (O), 30.IX.2018 *Spirin* 12537 (O). Akershus: Asker, Esvika, rotten wood, 30.IX.2017 *Larsson* 17664\* (O), *U. glabra*, 30.IX.2017 *Spirin* 11671\* (O), Stokkerelva at Åstaddammen, *U. glabra*, 28.IX.2018 *Spirin* 12434 (O), rotten wood, 28.IX.2018 *Larsson* 17876 (O). Oslo. Bygdøy, Dronningberget, rotten wood, 30.IX.2017 *Larsson* 17673 (O). Buskerud: Lier, Stokkerinden, *U. glabra*, 29.IX.2018 *Spirin* 12492\* (holotype, see below), *Spirin* 12482, 12494 (O), *Fraxinus excelsior*, 29.IX.2018 *Spirin* 12485 (O). Hedmark: Stange, Rotlia, *F. excelsior*, 26.IX.2018 *Spirin* 12422, 12425\* (O), rotten wood, 26.IX.2018 *Larsson* 17834 (O). Oppland: Nord-Fron, Liadalane Nat. Res., *Alnus incana*, 12.IX.2016 *Spirin* 11045\* (O), *Spirin* 11052 (O), 29.IX.2017 *Spirin* 11641\* (O), *Betula pubescens*, 12.IX.2016 *Spirin* 11053\* (O). Sogn og Fjordane: Luster, Loi, hardwood, 8.IX.2000 *Roberts* (O F146398). Møre og Romsdal: Nesset, Eikesdalen, *U. glabra*, 11.X.2011 B. Nordén 14–5663 (O F251651), 27.IX.2017 *Spirin* 11588\*, 11589, 11599, 11604 (O), 11590, 11591 (infected by *Achroomyces arachidispore*) (O), 28.IX.2017 *Spirin* 11632 (O); Sunndal, Knutsliøyen, *U. glabra*, 15.IX.2014 *Svantesson* (O F75904). Ukraine. Kharkov Reg.: Izyum Dist., Spivakivka, *A. glutinosa*, 6.XI.2010 *Akulov & Ordynets* (CWU 5998\*).

*Protomerulius microsporus*. Mexico. Veracruz: Córdoba, Motzorongo, 15.I.1910 *Murrill* 990 (NY 00738344, holotype), *Murrill* 995 (NY 00738343, paratype); Barranca de Pescado, hardwood, 26.IX.1985 *Ryvarden* 23440\* (O).

*Protomerulius minor*. Brazil. Pernambuco: Jaqueira, Frei Caneca, hardwood, 19.IV.2013 *Larsson* 15937\* (O, epitype of *Stypella minor*). USA. Arkansas: Marion Co., Buffalo Point, hardwood, 25.X.2013 *Miettinen* 17461\* (H). Massachusetts: Worcester Co., Worcester, *Acer*?, 1.XI.2014 *Miettinen* 19093.1 (H). New York: Catlin Co., Arbutus Lake, hardwood, 14.VIII.2012 *Miettinen* 15492\* (H), Rich lake, fallen *Acer*?, 18.VIII.2012 *Miettinen* 15700\* (H). Tennessee: Sevier Co., Gatlinburg, Ramsey Cascades trail, decayed wood, 13.VII.2004 *Larsson* 12173, 12185 (GB), *Tilia americana*, 30.IX.2015 *Miettinen* 19584.6, 19586\* (H). Virginia: Alleghany Co., George Washington Nat. Forest, 5.IX.1940 *Martin* 5096 (NY 00738341).

*Protomerulius pertusus*. Norway. Møre og Romsdal: Nesset, Eikesdalen, *Ulmus glabra*, 16.IX.2014 *Svantesson* (O F75913\*, holotype), decayed wood, 28.IX.2017 *Larsson* 17572\* (O). Russia. Nizhny Novgorod Reg.: Lukoyanov Dist., Sanki, *Quercus robur*, 19–21.VIII.2009 *Spirin* 3081\*, 3149\* (H), *Corylus avellana*, 21.VII.2018 *Spirin* 11947\* (H).

*Protomerulius subreflexus*. Indonesia. Papua: Sentani, Cycloop, fallen hardwood branch, 26.VIII.2004 *Miettinen* 9144 (MAN, H). Papua Barat: Manokwari, Saukorem, *Ficus* snag, 2.IX.2010 *Miettinen* 14339, fallen *Artocarpus* branch, 3.XI.2010 *Miettinen* 14392, fallen hardwood branch, 4.XI.2010 *Miettinen* 14402.1\* (MAN, H). Riau: Siak, Beruk N field, fallen hardwood branch, 9.IV.2002 *Miettinen* 5642\* (BO, H). Sumatera Barat: Sijunjung, Bukit Sebelah, fallen hardwood branch, 22.VII.2009 *Miettinen* 13695\* (ANDA, H). Philippines. Luzon (lectotype of *Polystictus subreflexus*, see below).

*Protomerulius substuppeus*. Argentina. Missiones: Iguazu Nat. Park, hardwood, 1.III.1982 *Ryvarden* 19711 (O, H). Brazil. Paraná: Curitiba, Colégio Medianeira, hardwood, 13.V.1989 *de Meijer* 1247 (O, H). Santa Catarina: Blumenau, *Jacaratia dodecaphylla* (recently fallen branches), 1891–1893 Möller 23 (HBG, lectotype of *P. brasiliensis*), Möller 91 (HBG, as *P. brasiliensis*); without exact locality, 1874, *Trail* 123 (lectotype of *Polyporus substuppeus*, see below). Costa Rica. Alajuela: Carara Nat. Park, hardwood, 26–27.VII.2014 *Vlasák* 1407/20, 1407/38\*, 1407/41 (H, JV). Guanacaste: Río Tempisque, hardwood, 31.VII.2014 *Vlasák* 1407/104\* (H, JV); Santa Rosa, hardwood, 18.X.1996 *Lindblad* 2105-B (O, H), 1.VII.1997 *Lindblad* 3269-A\* (O F19171, H). Puntarenas: Monteverde, Santa Elena, 29.VII.2014 *Vlasák* 1407/53 (H, JV). Jamaica. Trewlany: Windsor Cave, dead wood, 12.VI.1999 *Ryvarden* 41683\* (O, H). Puerto Rico. San Sebastián: Guajataca State Forest, hardwood, 26.VI.1996

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*Psilocheate multiflora*. Norway. Møre og Romsdal: Nesset, Eikesdalen, *U. glabra*, 27.IX.2017 *Spirin* 11596\* (O, holotype).

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