XX Symposium of Baltic Mycologists and Lichenologists

Gdańsk, September 25–29th, 2017

Book of abstracts

Editor
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Gdańsk 2017

ISBN 978-83-7531-163-1

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Parmelia Ach. s. str. in the southern Baltic region

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The distinguishing morphological and chemical characters of nine species of *Parmelia* Ach. s. str. occurring in the southern Baltic region, namely *P. barrenoae* Divakar et al., *P. ernstiae* Feuerer & A. Thell, *P. fraudans* (Nyl.) Nyl., *P. omphalodes* (L.) Ach. (including subsp. *discordans* (Nyl.) Skult and subsp. *omphalodes*), *P. pinnatifida* Kurok., *P. saxatilis* (L.) Ach., *P. serrana* A. Crespo et al., *P. submontana* Nádv. ex Hale and *P. sulcata* Taylor, are presented. Four of the species are cryptic or semi-cryptic, being recent segregates from *P. saxatilis* and *P. sulcata* based primarily on evidence derived from molecular analyses. *P. ernstiae* was formerly believed to be chemically distinct from *P. serrana* by the presence of lobaric acid, but recently this has been reported in both species. Furthermore, three chemotypes of *P. serrana* have been found by TLC in solvents A, C and G: 1) atranorin, consalazinic, salazinic and lichesterinic acids; 2) atranorin, consalazinic, salazinic, protolichesterinic and lichesterinic acids; 3) atranorin, consalazinic, salazinic, protolichesterinic, lichesterinic and lobaric acids. The first chemotype is rarely found while the other two appear to be common. At least three of the species, *P. ernstiae*, *P. serrana* and *P. submontana* are increasing in frequency in the region and spreading northwards.