

***Buellia iberica*, a recently described Iberian species, new to Italy**

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Abstract – *Buellia iberica* Giralt, a corticolous and lignicolous species previously known only from the Iberian Peninsula is reported here as new from Italy, from the province of Calabria. It was found growing on bark of *Pinus*, in a *Pinus* forest. An interesting accompanying species was *Pertusaria pupillaris*, reported here as new from southern Italy.

Lichens / Italy / new records / *Buellia iberica* / *Pertusaria pupillaris*

During study of herbarium material belonging to the lichen genus *Buellia* de Not. in the herbarium of the first author, an unidentified specimen from Italy, collected in 1986 (Calabria), was sent to the second author for revision. Because of the recent work on the corticolous and lignicolous *Buellia* species containing secondary lichen compounds in the Iberian Peninsula (Giralt & al. 2000), it was possible to identify the specimen, which showed to be *Buellia iberica* (chemotype I), a species recently described from the Iberian Peninsula by Giralt & Llimona (2000). This taxon is characterized by the presence of atranorin, norstictic and conorstictic acids, detected in the Italian specimen by TLC, a whitish to whitish grey, thin and rimose thallus, a weakly developed, blackish prothallus, small, lecidine apothecia of 0.35-0.5 mm in diameter, hymenium without, but hypothecium with oildroplets and ascospores of *Buellia*-type when mature but with tendencies to the *Callispora*-type when young, of 19-20 × 8-9 µm. Further information on the species (detailed description, habit photograph and ascospores drawings) is included in Giralt & Llimona (2000). Additional data regarding the Italian collecting site in Calabria are given in v.d. Boom & Aptroot (1990)

The Italian specimen was collected on bark of a mature *Pinus* tree, in an open *Pinus* forest. It was found in a community with a.o. *Hypogymnia physodes* (L.) Nyl., *H. tubulosa* (Schaerer) Havaas, *Melanelia exasperata* Essl., *Parmelia saxatilis* (L.) Ach., *P. sulcata* Taylor, *Pseudevernia furfuracea* (L.) Zopf. It was growing close to microlichens such as *Lecanora pulicaris* (Pers.) Ach., *Lecidea antiloga* Stirton, *L. turgidula* Fr., *Lecidella euphorea* (Flörke) Hertel and *Pertusaria pupillaris* (Nyl.) Th. Fr.

Pertusaria pupillaris is an epiphytic, subatlantic species known from bark of *Pinus* as well as from *Acer*, *Alnus*, *Corylus*, etc, which was not reported from southern Italy neither by v.d. Boom & Aptroot (1990), Nimis (1993) nor by Puntillo (1996).

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Previously, *B. iberica* was known only from the Iberian Peninsula (Giralt & Llimona 2000). There, it is a montane species, scattered but widely distributed in the Mediterranean mountains, preferentially at high altitudes. It is an easily overlooked species, which forms small thalli, mainly on dry twigs of conifers and evergreen shrubs and trees.

According to Giralt & Llimona (2000), *B. iberica* has often been mistaken for *B. erubescens* Arnold, *B. disciformis* (Fr.) Mudd and *Rinodina ericina* (Nyl.) Giralt.

Specimen: Italy; Calabria, La Sila, 20 km NE of Catanzaro, Parco Nazionale, road from Buturo to Villaggio Manusco, alt. 1400 m, on *Pinus* sp., 7 August 1986 (hb v.d. Boom 4726).

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