

ARCYRIA VIRESCENS, SP. N.

BY G. LISTER, F.L.S.

AMONG the specimens of Malayan Mycetozoa obtained by Mr. I. H. Burkill, F.L.S., Director of the Botanic Gardens, Singapore, is a handsome species of *Arcyria* with yellowish-green spores. It had developed on a block of wood in orchid pits in the Gardens in February 1916, and was courteously sent to me for identification. The striking features are the green spores, the long slender stalks, and the loose columns of buff or khaki-coloured capillitium, the threads of which are marked with scattered groups of prominent transverse ridges. I wrote to Mr. Burkill suggesting that he had met with a new species, and expressing the hope that more of it might be found.

The integrity of the species has been well established by the observations of Mr. A. R. Sanderson, F.L.S., who collected it at Naboda, Ceylon, in August 1918, and during his residence in the southern part of the Malay Peninsula from 1919 to 1921 he found it was not uncommon in the neighbourhood of Johore.

There is also a gathering of the same species in the Kew Herbarium from North Queensland (No. 155) collected by Pentzke near the Daintree River over forty years ago. (I am indebted to Miss E. M. Wakefield for deciphering "Daintree River," and for explaining the collector's name, which is written "Pentzoke" on the mounting sheet by mistake.) It is in poor condition and consists of a tangle of apparently weathered olive-brown capillitium, without stalks and with few spores; the rather stout threads show the characteristic groups of prominent transverse ridges which, apart from the other features, distinguish the new species from *Arcyria nutans* Grev. and *A. Oerstedtii* Rost. The specimen is marked "*Hemiarcyria fuliginea*," but is clearly different from the type specimen of *H. fuliginea* Cooke and Massee from New South Wales, laid out on the same sheet, which is a faded form of *Arcyria Oerstedtii*.

The following is a detailed description of the new green-spored species, for which I propose the name *Arcyria virescens*.

***Arcyria virescens*, sp. n.** Plasmodium? Sporangia stalked, cylindrical. Stalks slender, straight or flexuose, dark olive-green, 0.5 to 1.5 mm. long, arising from a membranous hypothallus, loosely grouped or united in clusters of three to ten, and widening upwards into narrow funnel-shaped sporangial cups; walls of the cup membranous, reticulated and spinose on the inner side. Capillitium a loose elastic network of dull ochraceous or khaki-coloured threads, unattached to the cup and expanding into a column about 6 mm. long; capillitium threads 4 to 6 μ diam., marked with scattered groups of close-set prominent transverse ridges, 3 to 5 μ deep, arranged more or less in a loose spiral; the remaining surface irregularly reticulated and roughened with delicate often broad-based spines. Spores yellowish-green in mass, 7 to 8 μ diam., smooth except for a few scattered warts.

Habitat on dead wood; Ceylon, Malay Peninsula, Queensland.



Lister, Gulielma. 1921. "Arcyria virescens, sp. nov." *Journal of botany, British and foreign* 59, 252–253.

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