

NAME CHANGES FOR SOME COMMON LICHENS  
AND ADDITIONS TO THE NORTH AMERICAN LICHEN FLORA

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In The Lichenologist 16(3) for 1984 J. R. Laundon reports on the lichen names published by William Withering in 1776. Withering is best known for placing the folk medicinal use of the foxglove (Digitalis) on a scientific basis which survives today in the use of digitalin for some kinds of heart disease. Since Withering's names are among the first published in the binomial system for lichens, their impact is significant. Laundon is to be commended for avoiding as many name changes as possible. However, since one of the cardinal principles of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature is that the earliest name for a species must be used, some changes are unavoidable. They are listed below according to the page number in the second edition of Hale's How to Know the Lichens.

- p. 49: Peltigera spuria (Ach.) DC. = P. didactyla (With.) Laundon  
p. 53: Sticta fuliginosa (Dicks.) Ach. = S. fuliginosa (Hoffm.) Ach.  
p. 132: Dermatocarpon fluviatile (G. Web.) Fr. = D. luridum (With.) Laundon  
p. 137: Physconia pulverulenta (Schreb.) Poelt = P. distorta (With.) Laundon  
p. 151: Collema tuniforme (Ach.) Ach. = C. fuscovirens (With.) Laundon  
Leptogium palmatum (Huds.) Mont. = L. corniculatum (Hoffm.) Minks  
Leptogium sinuatum (Huds.) Massal. = L. gelatinosum (With.) Laundon  
p. 178: Cladonia conista (Ach.) Robb. = C. humilis (With.) Laundon s.lat.  
p. 189: Cladonia pityrea (Flörke) Fr. = C. ramulosa (With.) Laundon  
p. 194: Cladonia capitata (Michx.) Spreng. = C. peziziformis (With.) Laundon

In the same number of The Lichenologist Brian Coppins and Peter James transfer some of our common species of Lecidea out of the Lecideaceae into the Trapeliaceae. They are also ecologically significant since the Lecidea uliginosa group and L. granulosa are pioneers on acidic sands and humus and probably have a role in binding and stabilizing them for colonization by other plants.

Lecidea uliginosa (Schrader) Ach. and L. oligotropha Laundon become Placynthiella uliginosa (Schrader) Coppins & P. James and P. oligotropha (Laundon) Coppins & P. James. They also report a collection of P. icmalea (Ach.) Coppins & P. James from Ohio, new to North America. A quick check of New York specimens indicates that P. icmalea may be the most common species of Placynthiella in the state. It is also present at 2100 m in the Dominican Republic.

Lecidea aeruginosa Borrer, L. gelatinosa Flörke, L. granulosa (Hoffm.) Ach. and L. viridescens (Schrader) Ach. are transferred to Trapeliopsis. Lecidea aeruginosa reverts to its formerly used epithet as Trapeliopsis flexuosa (Fr.) Coppins & P. James since its usage is no longer blocked by an earlier homonym as in Lecidea. Trapeliopsis pseudogranulosa Coppins &

P. James is described as new based on a specimen from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, known otherwise only from Europe.

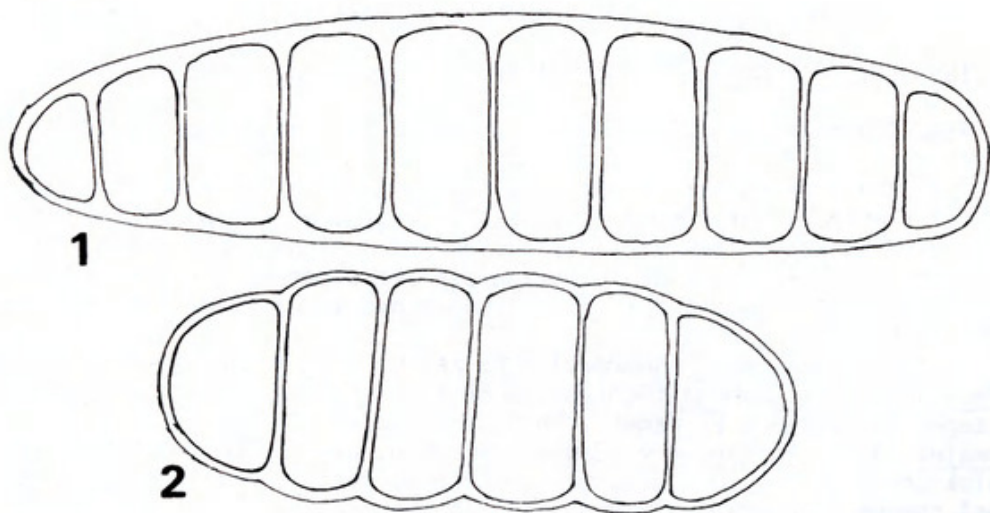
Additionally they describe a new species of Trapelia which provides a name for what will probably prove to be one of the most common sterile soresiate lichens on hard acidic rock in the eastern United States. Trapelia placodioides Coppins & P. James is known to me from Michigan and New York and may be pollution tolerant as it does well in the Bronx. It produces apothecia rarely in England but I have never found them in North American material.

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#### MEGALOSPORA PORPHYRITIS IN EASTERN NORTH AMERICA

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In Sipman's recent monograph of the lichen family Megalosporaceae (Biblioth. Lich. 18. 1983) he included Bombyliospora porphyritis (Tuck.) Massal. in Megalospora tuberculosa (Fée) Sipman. He gives reasons for this which may make sense from a worldwide perspective but on a regional basis it seems reasonable to recognize B. porphyrites at the species level. It is consistently soresiate, mostly sterile; always contains pannarin and zeorin; has smaller, fewer-celled spores; and has an Appalachian-Great Lakes distribution pattern. Therefore, I propose the new combination Megalospora porphyritis (Tuck.) R. C. Harris (Biatora porphyritis Tuck., Proc. Am. Acad. Arts Sci. 1: 253. 1848). I have verified collections from Quebec, Georgia, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Vermont and Wisconsin. Megalospora tuberculosa (apparently only strain A, usnic acid and zeorin) occurs in Alabama, Florida and Louisiana.



Figures 1 and 2: Spores of Megalospora. Figure 1: M. tuberculosa.  
Figure 2: M. porphyritis. Both are  $\times 840$ .





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