

## SCYTINOPOGON, A GENUS OF CLAVARIOID BASIDIOMYCETES NEW TO CHINA\*

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**ABSTRACT:** A tropical clavarioid genus of basidiomycetes, *Scytinopogon*, is reported for the first time from China. Two species, *S. pallescens* and *S. echinosporus*, were collected from Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province. Both of them are described and illustrated. Specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of Cryptogams, Kunming Institute of Botany, Academia Sinica (HKAS).

**KEY WORDS:** Tropical China, *Scytinopogon pallescens*, *S. echinosporus*

*Scytinopogon* Singer, Lloydia 8: 139, 1945.

Type species: *Scytinopogon pallescens* (Bres.) Singer

Fruit-body with flattened branching in one plane, becoming confused by twisting of the branches. Branches flattened, more or less broadly dilating before dividing, becoming elongate and ligulate, polychotomous below, dichotomous above (or wholly dichotomous in slender specimens). Hymenium inferior, the upper sides of the branches and axils with a sterile hymenium. Flesh rather tough, fibrous, pliant, more or less coriaceous, white, cream, alutaceous, tan, or tinged pink or purple. Basidia small, narrow; sterigmata 4, rarely 2 or 3. Cystidia none. Spores white, or pale tan or yellowish, echinulate or verruculose, angularly ellipsoid, slightly thick-walled, inamyloid.

Comer (1950, 1970) reported six species for the genus. Petersen (1984) contributed a new combination to it. All species are distributed in tropical, sometimes also in southern subtropical regions. Two species of the genus, *S. pallescens* and *S. echinosporus* have been found in tropical Yunnan, neither was reported from China before.

*Scytinopogon pallescens* (Bres.) Singer, Lloydia 8: 139, 1945.

*Clavaria angulispora* Pat., Bull. Soc. Myc. Fr. 4: 41, 1888.

*Pterula pallescens* Bres., Bull. Soc. Roy. Bot. Belg. 38: 157, 1899

*Scytinopogon angulisporus* (Pat.) Comer, A monograph of *Clavaria* and allied genera. 648, 1950.

Fruit-bodies (Fig. 1a) up to 20 × 14 cm, solitary, gregarious or caespitose, palmately and fastigiately branched from a flattened trunk-like base immersed in the ground, branching in one plane but twisted, branches and branchlets flattened and narrowly spatulate or ligulate, the upper sides of the branches and axils sterile, the under sides covered by the even waxy hymenium, chalk-white becoming cream or light cream-tan, the tips white. Flesh cream-white, slightly coriaceous or fibrous-subcoriaceous.

Tramal hyphae monomitic, 2~4 μm diam., rarely up to 6 μm diam., but occasionally up to 10 μm in the base of the stem, up to 250 μm long, with thin or slightly thickened walls, hyaline, uninflated, clamped. Subhymenium originally 20~25 μm thick, composed of loosely interwoven hyphae 2.5~4 μm wide. Hymenium thickening, up to 300 μm thick,

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not layered, the old basidia often collapsed. Basidia  $20 \sim 35 \times 5.5 \sim 7 \mu\text{m}$ , clamped, short, clavate, finely granular-vacuolate, mostly 4-spored, sometimes 2- or 3-spored; sterigmata  $4 \sim 5 \mu\text{m}$  long. Cystidia none.

Basidiospores (Fig. 1b)  $5.0 \sim 6.0 \times 3.0 \sim 3.5 \mu\text{m}$  (warts and spines excluded), white, ellipsoid, slightly angular, slightly thick-walled, finely verruculose or echinulate with acute warts or spines  $0.3 \sim 0.5 \mu\text{m}$  long.

Habitat: On the ground in or beside forests, or along road sides in tropical Yunnan, China.

Distribution: Pantropical. USA (North Carolina), Venezuela, Uganda, Mauritius, Malaya, and Thailand (Singer, 1945; Corner, 1970; Dennis, 1970; Ruksawong & Flegel, 2001). It is new to China.

Specimens examined: CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 11-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 365 (HKAS 21603); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 18-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 548 (HKAS 21604); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 18-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 549 (HKAS 21605); THAILAND. Amphur Chiangdao, 12-VII-2002, R. Sanmee (HKAS 41937).

Discussion: *Scytinopogon pallescens* was designated as the type of this genus by Singer (1945). Corner (1950) regarded *S. pallescens* as a synonymy of *S. angulisporus*, and designated *S. angulisporus* as the type. However, Petersen (1984) indicated *S. pallescens* has priority over *S. angulispora*, so the correct name for this taxon is *S. pallescens*.

***Scytinopogon echinosporus*** (Berk. & Broome) Corner, A monograph of *Clavaria* and allied genera: 655, 1950.

*Clavaria echinospora* Berk. & Broome, Journ. Linn. Soc. 14: 75, 1875.

Fruit-bodies (Fig. 2a) up to  $15 \times 9 \text{ cm}$ , branched, in more or less depressed, globose tufts arising from a common stem or cluster of stems, pallid or brownish below, pale purple or lilac above, pale dingy flesh-color to dingy whitish, even slightly violet, tips dark violet-brown, black on drying. Stem up to  $10 \times 3 \sim 5 \text{ mm}$ , short, cylindrical or subcompressed, arising from numerous white mycelial strands. Branches slender, 2.5 mm thick below,  $0.5 \sim 1 \text{ mm}$  above, repeatedly dichotomous, the outer curved, ascending with wide, rounded axils, the inner with acute or curved axils, crowded or rather loose, ultimate branchlets long, cylindrical, tapering, simple and subacute, bifid with semilunar axils, or even flattened and cristate. Flesh white, rather tough, subcoriaceous, cartilaginous.

Tramal hyphae irregularly inflated in places up to  $12 \mu\text{m}$  wide, mostly rather narrow ( $3.5 \sim 7.0 \mu\text{m}$  wide), thin-walled or slightly thick-walled, clamped, some with oily contents. Basidia  $22 \sim 24 \times 5.5 \mu\text{m}$ , clamped, 4-spored; sterigmata short.

Basidiospores (Fig. 2b)  $5.0 \sim 5.5 \times 3.0 \sim 4.0 \mu\text{m}$  (spines excluded), white, angular-reniform, echinulate with spines  $0.2 \sim 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ .

Habitat: On the ground in forests or under bamboos in tropical Yunnan, China.

Distribution: Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Solomen Islands (Corner, 1950, 1970). It is new to China.

Specimens examined: CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 12-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 387 (HKAS 21600); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 12-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 379 (HKAS 21601); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 580 m, 12-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 386 (HKAS 21602); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Dadugang, alt. 600 m, 7-VIII-2001, Z. L. Yang 3166 (HKAS 38343); CHINA. YUNNAN PROVINCE: Xishuangbanna, Menglun, alt. 600 m, 9-VIII-1988, Z. L. Yang 3180 (HKAS 38357).

Discussion: *Scytinopogon echinosporus* is very similar to slender forms of *S. pallescens*, and their basidiospores are hardly distinguishable. However, the fruit-bodies of *S. echinosporus* are usually distinctly colored and its tramal hyphae

more inflated than those of *S. pallescens*.

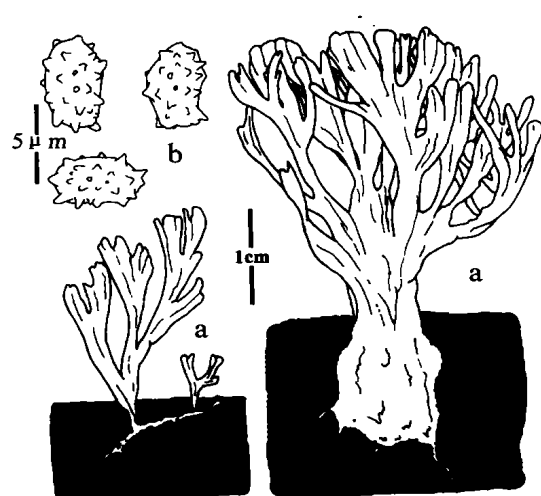


Fig. 1 *Scytinopogon pallescens*  
a. Fruit-bodies; b. Basidiospores

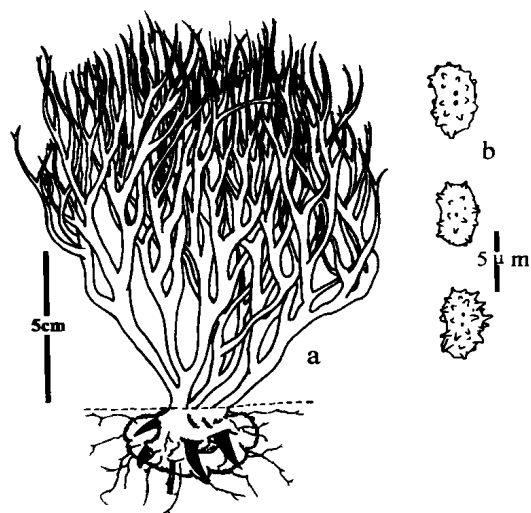


Fig. 2 *Scytinopogon echinosporus*  
a. Fruit-bodies; b. Basidiospores.

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## 中国珊瑚菌—新记录属——扁枝瑚菌属

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**摘要:** 报道了中国热带珊瑚菌类的一新纪录属——扁枝瑚菌属 *Scytinopogon*。目前该属在我国仅在云南的西双版纳采到两种, 即扁枝瑚菌 *S. pallescens* 和刺孢扁枝瑚菌 *S. echinosporus*。文中对这两个种进行了描述, 并附有插图。研究标本保存于中国科学院昆明植物研究所隐花植物标本室 (HKAS)。

**关键词:** 中国热带, 扁枝瑚菌, 刺孢扁枝瑚菌

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