

SWEDISH TAXONOMY INITIATIVE RESEARCH REPORT Project period: 2007–2009

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Taxonomic revision of Acarosporomycetidae and Candelariales in the Nordic countries

Abstract

This is the final report on the project "A taxonomic revision of the Acarosporomycetidae and the Candelariomycetidae in the Nordic countries".

The aim of the project was to revise the taxonomy and nomenclature of these two groups of lichenized Ascomycetes in the Nordic countries and to investigate the phylogeny in order to revise the generic taxonomy.

The funding was used for a post-doc salary at the Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm and to cover costs for fieldwork, herbarium visits, lab and other consumables and a computer. Additional support was received from Mats Wedin's VR-project and from Riksmusei Vänner. Field work was conducted throughout Sweden and in Norway and on Iceland.

One new genus, *Silobia*, and five new species occurring in Sweden have been described so far within the project. Several papers are planned and in the process of preparation with several new species and radical changes in the generic taxonomy. These concern primarily the genera *Sarcogyne* and *Polysporina*.

Sarcogyne includes a number of species previously thought to belong to *Acarospora*, but the group will probably be divided between four genera. The majority of the species in *Polysporina* will be transferred to *Acarospora*, but the position of the type species is uncertain.

In addition the fieldwork has resulted in many important finds of lichens and lichenicolous fungi including five new species to Sweden. The investigation continues in a second project financed by the Swedish Taxonomy Initiative.

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