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## Typification of *Spirodecospora*

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A new collection of *Anthostomella melnikii* was made in Kunashir Island, Russia and was found to be identical to *Spirodecospora bambusicola*. *Anthostomella melnikii* therefore becomes the type of *Spirodecospora*. This information is formally published with notes on *Anthostomella melnikii* and *Spirodecospora bambusicola*.

**Key words:** *Anthostomella*, bamboo fungi.

### Introduction

Lu *et al.* (1998) introduced *Spirodecospora* B.S. Lu, K.D. Hyde & W.H. Ho to accommodate an *Anthostomella*-like species, from *Bambusa* sp., which differed in having characteristic ascospores covered in conspicuous, spirally arranged wall ornamentations and being surrounded by a fibrous mucilaginous sheath. Ascospores also lacked a germ slit and ascomata were relatively large for *Anthostomella*. *Anthostomella melnikii* Lar. N. Vassiljeva had been revealed by V. Mel'nik in the process of identification of anamorphic fungi on dead culms of *Sasa kurilensis* from Kunashir Island, which had been collected by Vassiljeva in 1987 (Vassiljeva, 1990). *Spirodecospora bambusicola* B.S. Lu, K.D. Hyde & W.H. Ho had been found in Victoria Peak, Hong Kong Island, in July 1997. In the monograph on *Anthostomella*, Lu and Hyde (2000) indicated that *Anthostomella melnikii* was probably *Spirodecospora bambusicola*, however they were unable to obtain type material.

Later in September 1989, Mel'nik (unpublished data) found *A. melnikii* again on dead culms of *Sasa kurilensis* also in Kunashir Island, in vicinity of Tretyakovo settlement (LE 212430). We compared this material with the holotypes of *S. bambusicola* and *A. melnikii* and found that there were only minor differences in size of ascomata, asci and ascospores between these specimens. We therefore consider them to be the same species.

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**Table 1.** Synopsis of characters in various collections of *Spirodecospora bambusicola*.

Collection	<i>S. bambusicola</i> [HKU(M) 7303, holotype]	<i>A. melnikii</i> (holotype; after Vassiljeva, 1990)	LE 212430
Ascal ring	8.8-10 µm diam. 3.8-7.5 µm high	8-9 µm diam. 3.8-5 µm high	8-10 µm diam. 4-6(7) µm high
Ascospores	28-45 × 11-15 µm, conspicuously verrucose, with spiral ornamentations and mucilaginous sheath	(30)33-36(39.6) × 14-16.5 µm, conspicuously verrucose, with spiral ornamentations (as spiral germ slit) and mucilaginous sheath	32-38(42) × 12.5-15 µm, conspicuously verrucose, with spiral ornamentations and mucilaginous sheath
Host	<i>Bambusa</i> sp.	<i>Sasa kurilensis</i>	<i>Sasa kurilensis</i>
Location	Hong Kong	Kunashir Island	Kunashir Island

The taxonomic position of the species in question is of interest being assigned to two different genera, *Anthostomella* and *Spirodecospora*. Following an extensive monograph of *Anthostomella* Lu *et al.* (1998) distinguished between *Spirodecospora bambusicola* and *Anthostomella* as the ascospores are covered in very conspicuous, spirally arranged wall ornamentations, surrounded by a fibrous mucilaginous sheath, and lack germ slits. The ascospores in *Spirodecospora* are atypical of all 84 *Anthostomella* species accepted by Lu and Hyde (2000), and therefore a new genus was felt justified.

We consider that the differences between *Anthostomella* and this taxon are distinct and that *Spirodecospora* should be maintained. *Anthostomella melnikii* (1990) however, has priority against *S. bambusicola* (1998). Therefore we create a new combination for type species of genus *Spirodecospora*. A comparison of the morphology of the type materials and our present collection is given in Table 1.

***Spirodecospora melnikii* (Lar. N. Vassiljeva) K.D. Hyde & Melnik, **comb. nov.****

≡ *Anthostomella melnikii* Lar. N. Vassiljeva, Mikologiya i Fitopatologiya 24: 209 (1990).

= *Spirodecospora bambusicola* B.S. Lu, K.D. Hyde & W.H. Ho, Fungal Diversity 1: 172 (1998).

*Material examined:* RUSSIA, regio Sachalinensis, ins. Kunashir, in viciniis Golovnino, ad caules emortuos *Sasae kurilensis*, 31 July 1987, Lar. N. Vassiljeva, in Instituto Biologiae et Edaphologiae, Sectionis Orientis Extremi Academy of Sciences. URSS (Vladivostok) conservatur (holotype of *Anthostomella melnikii*; **Lectotype designated here**); RUSSIA, Far East, Sakhalin Oblast', Kunashir Island, in vicinity of settlement Tretyakovo, on dead culms of *Sasa kurilensis*, 17 September 1989, V. Mel'nik (LE 212430); CHINA, Hong Kong Island,

Victoria peak, on dead culms of *Bambusa* sp., 18 July 1997, B.S. Lu [HKU(M) 7303, holotype of *Spirodecospora bambusicola*].

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