

Artificial key to Indian species of *Peziza*

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The 33 species of the genus *Peziza*, so far recorded from this country, have been keyed out to make their identification easy.

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Moser (1968) was the first to provide key to a large number of species of *Peziza* (Dil.). L. ex st. Amans in recent times. The language, however, slightly reduces its usefulness to the English reader. Batra and Batra (1963) and Rifai (1968) also gave keys to the Indian and Australasian species respectively. In both the cases the number of taxa was small. The present key is the result of the study of 33 species so far known from this country (Pant, 1993).

Spores smooth	 1
Spores ornamented	 12
1. Apothecia seated on a subiculum, thick and convex	
..... <i>Peziza subisabellina</i> (Le Gal)	
..... Moser var. <i>subiculata</i> Pant & Tewari	
1'. Apothecia not on a subiculum, cup shaped or discoid	 2
2. Spores spindle shaped	
..... <i>P. gerardi</i> Cke.	
2'. Spores elliptical to oval	 3
3. Spores eguttulate	 4
3'. Spores guttulate	 8
4. Apothecia small (upto 2 cm diam)	 5
4'. Apothecia larger	 5
5. Hymenium light violet	 6

- *P. violacea* Pers.
- 5'. Hymenium yellowish brown
..... *P. hortensis* Cr.
6. Apothecia pale ochraceous
..... *P. cerea* Bull
- 6'. Apothecia darker (chest nut brown) 7
7. Apothecia externally smooth
..... *P. repanda* Pers.
- 7'. Apothecia scurfy to pustulate
..... *P. vesiculosa* Bull.
8. Guttules many
..... *P. multiguttulata* Kar & Pal
- 8'. Only 1-2 guttule in each spore 9
9. Spores small, less than 15 μ long
..... *P. tectoria* Cke.
- 9'. Spores larger 10
10. Apothecia golden yellow
..... *P. flavida* (Phill.) Moser
- 10'. Apothecia some shade of brown 11
11. Apothecia externally smooth, asci up to
360 μ m long (vide Le Gal 1953),
..... *P. ampliata* Pers. ,
- 11'. Asci smaller than 280 μ m
..... *P. ampliata* var. *costifera* (Bond.) Tewari & Pant.
12. Spore ornamentation in the form of reticulations 13
- 12'. Spore ornamentation otherwise 15
13. Spores hyaline
..... *P. badia* Pers.
- 13'. Spores brown
14. Spores large, reticulations less prominent
..... *P. retiderma* Cke.
- 14'. Spores small, reticulations less prominent
..... *P. atrovinosa* Cke. & Gerard
15. Spores apiculate 16
- 15'. Spores otherwise 17

16.	Hymenium with violet ting, externally lighter	
	 <i>P. lividula</i> Phill.	
16'.	Hymenium dark brown	
	 <i>P. apiculata</i> Cke*	
17.	Spores eguttulate	
	 <i>P. echinospora</i> Karst.	
17'.	Spores guttulate	 18
18.	Apothecia externally pustulate	 19
18'.	Apothecia smooth to furfuraceous	 21
19.	Spores verrucose	
	 <i>P. pustulatea</i> Pers.	
	(= <i>P. anthracophila</i> Dennis, P. P. vide Moser, 1968)	
19'.	Spores with thicker warts	 20
20.	Apothecia pale violet	
	 <i>P. celtica</i> (Boud.) Moser	
20'.	Apothecia dark brown	
	 <i>P. depressa</i> Pers.	
21.	Apothecia growing on burnt places	
	 <i>P. proteana</i> (Boud.) Seaver	
21'.	Apothecia not on burnt places	 22
22.	Apothecia reddish	
	 <i>P. michelii</i> (Boud.) Dennis	
22'.	Apothecia otherwise	 23
23.	Ascospores finely verrucose	 24
23'.	Ascospores prominently warty	 26
24.	Apothecia growing on damp plaster, sand, gravel caves etc.	
	 <i>P. domiciliana</i> Cke.	
24'.	Apothecia on soil or wood	 25
25.	Hymenium umber brown	
	 <i>P. sylvestris</i> (Boud.) Moser	
25'.	Hymenium lighter (violet)	

* Rifai (1969 : 225-226) accepts it as the type species of the genus *Phaeopezia* Sacc.

* There is much confusion about this name. Rifai (1968: 229-230) accepts it as a synonym of *Pustularia catinus*.

- *P. emileia* Cke.
26. Warts discrète, never running together
..... *P. badiofusca* (Boud.) Dennis
- 26'. Not as above 27
27. Apothecia not exceeding 1 cm dia.
..... *P. brunneoatra* Desmaz.
- 27'. Apothecia larger 28
28. Ascospores small, up to 13 μ m long
..... *P. petersii* Berk.
- 28'. Ascospores larger 29
29. Apothecia small, less than 3 cm dia.
..... *P. limnaea* Mass G.
- 29'. Apothecia larger 30
30. Ascospores 13-18 μ m long
..... *P. tosta* (Boud.) Tewari & Pant
- 30'. Ascospores larger 31
31. Apothecia less than 5 cm dia.
..... *P. succosa* Berk.
- 31'. Apothecia 5-10 cm dia.
..... *P. badio-confusa* Korf

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