

## Specific epithet and author citation of some members of *Phellinus* (Hymenochaetaceae, Basidiomycetes)

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A complete scientific name of a species consists of three elements : (1) the genus, (2) the specific epithet and (3) the author citation. But some controversies have been noticed regarding specific epithet and author citation of some members of the genus *Phellinus* Quel. (Hymenochaetaceae, Basidiomycetes). In the present paper these controversies have been resolved.

Gilbertson and Ryverden (1987) have cited the name of a fungus as *Phellinus robineae* (Murr.) Ames but Larsen and Cobb-Pouille (1990) have cited as *Phellinus robiniae* (Murr.) Ames. This fungus grows usually on different tree species of the genus *Robinia* L. (Family - Fabaceae). After the generic name of its host *Robinia*, the specific epithet of this fungus has been derived as 'robiniae'. Epithets of fungus names derived from the generic name of the host plant should be in accordance with the accepted spelling of this name [Article 73, Recommendation 73H - Greuter (1988)]. As '*Robinia*' is the accepted spelling of the genus of the host plant, the specific epithet of the fungus in this case should be '*robiniae*'. The name coined by Murrill (1903) as *Pyropolyporus robiniae* Murr. for this fungus is, therefore, correct and it can not be *Pyropolyporus robineae* Murr. as had been mentioned by Gilbertson and Ryverden (1987). Later Ames (1913) transferred this fungus to the genus *Phellinus* Quel. and naturally the new name of this fungus was regarded as *Phellinus robiniae* (Murr.) Ames (basonym : *Pyropolyporus robiniae* Murr.). The correct specific epithet of this fungus in the genus *Phellinus* Quel. is, therefore, '*robiniae*' and not '*robineae*'.

Besides the above mentioned anomaly in specific epithet, controversies in author citation of some members of the genus *Phellinus* Quel. have also been noticed. The author citation of *Phellinus contiguus* has been made in different ways by different workers. According to Rattan (1977) it is *Phellinus contiguus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Bourd. and Galz. but according to Larsen and Cobb-Pouille (1990) it is *Phellinus contiguus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Pat. A survey of literature reveals that Patouillard (1900) transferred the basonym *Polyporus contiguus* Fr. (Syst. Mycol. 1 : 378, 1821) to the genus *Phellinus* Quel. in 1900 and Bourdot and Galzin (1928) made a similar transfer in 1928. So, the combination made by Patouillard (1900) has got priority and that made by Bourdot and Galzin (1928) is superfluous (nom. superf.). Thus, the accurate and complete nomenclature of this fungus is *Phellinus contiguus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Pat.

The authority of *Phellinus ferruginosus*, another species of the genus *Phellinus* Quel., has also been cited differently by different workers. Gilbertson, Burdsall and Canfield (1976) have cited as *Phellinus ferruginosus* (Schrad. ex Fr.) Bourd et Galz. while Plank (1978) has cited as *Phellinus ferruginosus* (Schrad. ex Fr.) Pat. Perusal of literature reveals that in this case also the combination made by Bourdot and Galzin (1928) is superfluous (nom. superf.) because Patouillard (1900) made the similar transfer of the basonym *Polyporus ferruginosus* Schrad. ex Fr. (Syst. Mycol. 1 : 378, 1821) earlier. So, the valid name of this fungus is *Phellinus ferruginosus* (Schrad. ex Fr.) Pat.

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