New discoveries in Asian pannariaceous lichens

Per M. JØRGENSEN

Abstract: New collections from inner China have revealed further species in the genus Fuscopannaria: two new species, Fuscopannaria cyanogranulosa P. M. Jørg. and Fuscopannaria obtegens P. M. Jørg. are described and Fuscopannaria subgemmascens Upreti & Divakar is reported as new to Sichuan. A key to the sorediate species of the region is provided. The first fertile specimen of Kroswia gemmascens has been discovered, much further west than previously known, showing the genus to be related most closely to Fuscopannaria despite its gelatinous, homoiomerous thallus. Some collections from the Mulu region in Borneo have added to our knowledge of the difficult lowland taxa of Parmeliella, two of which proved to be new: Parmeliella plumosella P. M. Jørg. and Parmeliella polydactyla P. M. Jørg. & Coppins, both being quite unusual in containing "violet" Nostoc as cyanobiont. There is a surprising number of Asian collections with brightly coloured medullas: red-orange material has been named several times and is correctly referred to as Parmeliella endomilta Vain. The specimens with a yellow medulla are named Parmeliella endolutea P. M. Jørg., nom. nov. A key to the brightly coloured species of Parmeliella concentrated in SE Asia is given. A new corticolous Protopannaria has been discovered in Sichuan, and is described as P. corticola P. M. Jørg.

Key words: Borneo, China, Fuscopannaria, Kroswia, new species, Parmeliella, Protopannaria

Introduction

The lichens of the family Pannariaceae in Asia have recently been treated in several regional papers (Jørgensen 2000a, b, 2002a, b;Jørgensen & Kashiwadani 2001; Jørgensen & Sipman 2002, 2006; Upreti et al. 2005). Subsequently, collectors have sent me more material that has widened the knowledge of the family in Asia, some genera of which appear to have an evolutionary centre in SE Asia. This present paper summarizes recent discoveries in Fuscopannaria, Kroswia, Parmeliella and Protopannaria among this material. The methods are the same as in the previous papers and the material is that cited in each section.

Fuscopannaria, two new species and a new record

The steadily increasing number of species described in this genus has been a surprise to

Per M. Jørgensen: Botanical Museum, University of Bergen, Allégt. 41, N-5007 Bergen, Norway.

me (Jørgensen 2005). After my study of the American taxa (Jørgensen 2001a), where the Pacific region proved to be particularly species-rich, to find an even greater variation in SE Asia was unexpected. Nearly every collection sent to me from the region contained new species or new records. Two new species are described and a new record is reported here from a recent package of specimens from inner China sent by W. Obermayer, Graz.

Fuscopannaria cyanogranulata P. M. Jørg. sp. nov.

Fuscopannariae sorediatae similis, sed thallo fulvo sorediis punctiformibus et apotheciis convexis sine marginibus thallinis.

Typus: China, Xizang, SE Tibet, Tsangpo tributary, Nangxian-Mainling, Liung Chu, eastern branch (Camp 14—High Camp), 4050 m, 14 August 1994, *G. Miehe* & U. Wündisch 94-176-29/15 (GZU—holotypus).

(Fig. 1A)

Thallus to 3 cm diam., small-squamulose, of rounded, shallowly incised, pale brown

squamules, 2-3 mm diam. broad and *c*. 150 µm thick, with marginal, punctiform, bluish soralia with bluish granular structures on the edges, becoming confluent with age.

Apothecia rare to 1 mm diam., convex with brown disc and whitish proper exciple soon disappearing, to 30 μ m wide, without a thalline margin. *Hymenium* I+ blue-green turning red-brown. *Asci* subcylindrical with amyloid internal ring-structure, 8-spored. *Ascospores* simple, colourless, citriform, 25– 30 × 10–15 μ m including a distinct, uneven exospore.

Pycnidia not observed.

Chemistry. Fatty acids and terpenoids as in most species of the genus (Jørgensen 1991).

Notes. When describing Fuscopannaria coerulescens (Jørgensen 2000b), I included with some doubt a specimen from Nepal and remarked at the time that fertile material would be necessary to resolve the matter. Fertile material now available clearly shows that the Himalayan material belongs to a different and undescribed species. Fuscopannaria coerulescens differs from the F. cyanogranulata by its apothecia with a distinct thalline margin and by its smaller and broader spores with an indistinct exospore. It has a much more southern distribution in Asia than the new species, being confined to the montane regions of New Guinea, Borneo, Sri Lanka and southern India,

As the sorediate species of *Fuscopannaria* are now becoming better known and proving to be as complex in SE Asia as in Pacific North America, a key to the SE Asian species is presented below (p. 241) to assist in their identification.

Habitat and distribution. Fuscopannaria cyanogranulata appears to be a corticolous species of the upper *Abies* forests of eastern Himalaya, at an altitude of about 4000 m. Specimens examined. Nepal: Khumbu: South of Kunde, 4000 m, 9 ix 1962, *J. Poelt* (M).—China: Xizang: SE Tibet, Tsangpo tributary, Nanxian-Mainling, Lilung Chu, eastern branch, 1994, U. Wündisch & G. Miehe 94-176-29/16 (GZU).

Fuscopannaria obtegens P. M. Jørg. sp. nov.

Fuscopannariae dispersae similis, sed thallo squamulis dichotome divisis, imbricato; apothecia convexa, sine margine thallino, proliferantes, sporis subglobosis.

Typus: China, Xizang, SE Tibet, Gyala Peri W, Upper Bong Chu (Lang Chu), E of Pass Nyingchi-Dongjuk, 4430 m, 28 August 1994, U. Wündisch & G. Miehe 94-231-36/26 (GZU—holotypus).

(Fig. 1C)

Thallus spreading widely, made up of imbricating brown squamules to 2 mm diam., dichotomously branched with tongue-like, white-tipped apices, to 150 μ m thick, resting on a conspicuous mat of blackish rhizohyphae.

Apothecia common to 1 mm diam., convex without thalline margin, but with visible whitish proper exciple (about 40 μ m wide), often proliferating and occurring in clusters, disc brown. Hymenium I+ blue-green, changing to red-brown. Ascospores subglobose, 10–12 μ m diam., with indistinct exospore.

Pycnidia not observed.

Chemistry. Contains fatty acids and terpenoids (TLC), the latter visible as needlelike crystals in herbarium specimens (see Jørgensen 1991).

Notes. This new species is very characteristic with its crustose appearance covering large areas of the trunks on which it grows. These large areas appear black because of the well-developed blackish rhizohyphal mat, similar to that of corticolous specimens of *Parmeliella triptophylla* (Ach.) Müll. Arg.,

FIG. 1. Morphology of Asian Pannariaceae. A–C Fuscopannaria; A, F. cyanogranulata (holotype GZU); B, F. subgemmascens, Sichuan (W. Obermayer s.n. GZU); C, F. obtegens (holotype GZU); D, Kroswia gemmascens, fertile specimen (GZU); E–G Parmeliella; E, P. plumosella (holotype E); F, P. endolutea, Borneo (E); G, P. polydactyla (holotype E); H. Protopannaria corticola (holotype GZU). Scales: A–H=1 mm.



FIG. 2. Part of the roof of Fantoft Stavkirke, Bergen.

which is not known from this region. The only somewhat similar and probably closely related species known from the area is Fuscopannaria dispersa P. M. Jørg. (Jørgensen 2000a) which has dispersed, elegantly incised squamules, while F. obtegens has strongly imbricating squamules that are dichotomously divided, giving the thallus an impression of a tiled roof (particularly like the ones seen on stave churches in Norway, Fig. 2). In addition, the frequently proliferating apothecia are without a thalline margin and contain smaller subglobose spores.

Habitat and distribution. Known only from the rich type collection, which was made from stems in a grazed Juniper forest near the upper forest limit at 4430 m, on a southfacing slope, indicating that it might be a species of the upper coniferous forests in the region.

Fuscopannaria subgemmascens Upreti & Divakar

This species is recorded here for the first time from China.

(Fig. 1B)

Specimen examined. China: Sichuan: Henguan Shan, Daxue Shan, in area of Hailouglou Station, 29 vii 2000, Obermayer (GZU).

Kroswia found with apothecia

described The genus was recently (Jørgensen 2002b) from sterile material and placed in the Pannariaceae, despite its gelatinous, homoiomerous thalli that had led earlier lichenologists to include it in Physma (Collemataceae).

Fertile material of Kroswia gemmascens (Nyl.) P. M. Jørg. has now been found in collections from inner China, which supplements the description and extends the distribution of the genus. The specimens show apothecia typical of the Pannariaceae and look superficially rather like Pannaria conoplea (Ach.) Bory, but have a distinct gelatinous texture.

(Fig. 1D)

Apothecia with secondarily developed thalline margin (Henssen 1969), covered in gymnidia (see Jørgensen & Kashiwadani 2001). Apothecial disc dark brown, plane and somewhat lobed; in section showing suppressed/poorly developed proper exciple (to 15 µm wide); subhymenium welldeveloped, 100-120 µm wide, made up of intricate, closely interwoven hyphae. Hymenium 250-300 µm high, I+ bluegreen, rapidly turning red-brown, with simple, thin (c. $1.5 \,\mu$ m), septate paraphyses which are enlarged apically and there covered in an external brown pigment. narrowly cylindrical, $200-250 \times$ Asci $7.5-12.5 \,\mu m$, rather thin-walled, apically enlarged with internal amyloid ringstructure. Ascospores 8 per ascus, pale brown, globose, 10–15 µm diam., without a distinct exospore.

Notes. The apothecial characters clearly confirm the position of Kroswia in the Pannariaceae, but contradict my former assumption that it was closely related to gelatinous Pannaria species, such as P. santessonii Swinscow & Krog. The characters of the hymenium and the chemistry of the thallus certainly place it close to Fuscopannaria, but it differs not only in its thallus organization but also in the brownish spores, a unique character in the family.

Distribution. Previously known only from south-eastern Japan and eastern China



(Jørgensen 2002*b*), the new discovery extends the distribution area greatly westwards and into the Asian continent.

Specimens examined. China: Sichuan: SE Tibetan fringe mountains (=Hengduan Shan), Daxue Shan, 57 km S of Kangding, Gongga Shan, Hailougou glacier and forest park, surrounding area of Hailougou Station, 2940–3130 m, 2000, W. Obermayer 08680 (GZU). Xizang: Tibet, Nyainqêntanglha Shan, 370 km E of Lhasa, 55 km NNE of Nyingchi river valley, at the west side of Gyala Peri, 2500 m, 1994, W. Obermayer 10628 (GZU).

Parmeliella, notes on some material from Mulu, Borneo

Among material collected mainly by B. J. Coppins (Edinburgh) during the Royal Geographic Society Mulu expedition in Borneo in 1977–78, there are some particularly interesting collections which add to our knowledge of this difficult genus in this region. They belong in the difficult lowland species complexes that were not included in the treatment of the New Guinea *Pannariaceae* (Jørgensen & Sipman 2006). Some are new species or need new names.

Parmeliella endolutea P. M. Jørg. stat. & nom. nov.

Pannaria stylophora var. lutea Herre, Bryologist 54: 283 (1951); type: Philippines, Luzon, Prov. Rizal, Mt. Irid, A. W. Herre (LAM-holotype!)

(Fig. 1F)

Notes. To date this taxon has been known only from the type collection which was clearly characterized in the original desciption, although it has been poorly known and understood until now. The Mulu material shows some variation in the presence and development of isidia, but this appears, just as in the case of *Parmeliella flavida* P. M. Jørg., not to be of great taxonomic importance (Jørgensen & Sipman 2006). While the presence of apothecia is variable, they are often present and show that this species belongs to the *Parmeliella mariana* (Fr.) P. M. Jørg. & D. Galloway complex with a distinct thalline margin and asci with internal amyloid ring-structures (Jørgensen 2003). Parmeliella endolutea clearly differs from P. flavida in that it is only the medulla which is (strongly) yellow, not the thallus itself. I have therefore given it a new name to reflect the realities, as allowed by the ICBN (Art. 11.2), rather than merely making a new combination. As commented upon previously (Jørgensen 2003) there appears to be a concentration of species in the Pannariaceae and the Coccocarpiaceae in this region with yellow/orange pigments, which have not been precisely identified as they are nearly insoluble in acetone (J. A. Elix pers. comm.). This concentration of species appears to be the result of some common evolutionary factor, a matter needing further study.

One of these species, *Parmeliella endomilta* Vain. (syn. *Parmeliella endoferruginea* Aptroot) often occurs together with *P. endolutea*. It is quite clear that these two are distinct species, and not chemical variants of the same taxon. *Parmeliella endomilta* has a browner more skin-like thallus and different, citriform spores.

These brightly coloured *Parmeliella* species are often confused and a key to them is presented below (p. 242).

Specimens examined (of P. endolutea). Sarawak: Gunong Mulu National Park, 4th Division, Baram Park, valley of Ulu Jerneh (Hidden valley), c. 500 m, 1978, B. Coppins 5256, 5258 (E); Long Pala, Limestone Hill, c. 2 km E of base camp, S. side of Sungei Melinau Paku, 70–300m, 1978, B. Coppins 5431, 5432, 5434(E).

Specimens examined (of P. endomilta). Sarawak: Gunong Mulu National Park, 4th Division, Baram Distr., valley of Ulu Jerneh (Hidden valley), 500 m, 1978, B. Coppins 5257; ibid., 1978, B. Coppins 5317 (E).

Parmeliella plumosella P. M. Jørg. sp. nov.

Parmeliellae philippinae similis, sed thallo delicate plumoso diviso, et sporis curtis.

Typus: Borneo, Sarawak, Gunong Mulu National Park, 4th Division, Baram distr., valley of Ulu Jerneh, 7 April 1978, *B. Coppins* 5266 (E—holotypus).

(Fig. 1E)

is composed of Jerneh, 50

Thallus subcrustaceous composed of closely appressed, featherlike divided, greybrown squamules, forming effuse colonies to 5 cm diam. surrounded by a crustaceous black prothallus; in section $50-75 \,\mu\text{m}$ thick, with cellular upper cortex, $15-25 \,\mu\text{m}$ thick, underneath packed with perpendicular chains of the cyanobiont, a "violet" *Nostoc*, individual cells $3-5 \,\mu\text{m}$ diam. No lower cortex, but a few horizontal hyphae which merge into the prothallus.

Apothecia common, to 1.5 mm diam., brown, often convex and becoming irregular with pale proper exciple, to 25 μ m wide, soon becoming excluded. Subhymenium paraplectenchymatous, brownish, 30–50 μ m wide. Hymenium 50–70 μ m high, I+ bright blue. Asci subcylindrical, to 50 × 7–10 μ m, with internal blue ring-structure, 8-spored. Ascospores simple, colourless, ellipsoid, 12– 14 × 5–6 μ m, smooth, without distinct exospore.

Pycnidia not observed.

Chemistry. No substances detected by TLC

Notes. This is a most delicate species, on smooth bark appearing as a bluish film which on closer inspection proves to have featherlike squamules. In section these squamules appear basically to be an aggregation of a "violet" *Nostoc* protected by a cellular hyphal "roof" (the cortex of the lichen).

Parmeliella plumosella appears to be a lowland "cousin" of Parmeliella philippina, differing both in thallus morphology and shorter spores.

Habitat and distribution. Parmeliella plumosella is as yet known only from lowland Borneo, where it is locally common in the forest, but may prove to have a wider distribution in the lowland forests of SE Asia, which are lichenologically poorly known.

Specimens examined. Sarawak: Gunong Mulu National Park, 4th division, Baram Distr, Long Pala, 65 m, 1978, B. Coppins 5419 (E); along alluvial plot, S side of Sungei Melinau, c. 2 km ESE of National Parks Hut, 65 m, 1978, B. Coppins 5416 (E); Ulu Sungei Jerneh, 500 m, 1978, *B. Coppins* 5259 (E).—**Sabah**, Mt. Silam, SW of Lahad Dahu, east coast, 1963, *Z. Iwatsuki* 5603 (TNS).

Parmeliella polydactyla P. M. Jørg. & Coppins sp. nov.

Thallus squamulosus; squamis digitiformites divisis, "digitis" erosis, deorsum curvatis, sine acidis lichenosis. Apothecia ignota.

Typus: Sarawak, Gunung Mulu National Park, 4th Division, Baram distr., W side of Sungei Melinau, near Lobang Angin (cave of the winds), 100 m, 12 April 1978, *B. Coppins* 5338 (E—holotypus).

(Fig. 1G)

Thallus squamulose, squamules scattered on an effuse distinct blackish mat of rhizohyphae (up to 10 cm diam.), central ones to 2–3 mm wide, digitately divided, each of the brown "fingers" eroded marginally and bent downwards, 50–75 μ m, thick with cellular cortex 10–15 μ m and a loose medullary layer beneath enclosing packets of a "violet" *Nostoc*, individual cells 3–5 μ m diam. Lower cortex absent, and the visible lower surface appears cottony with bluish dots, representing the *Nostoc* glomerules. Towards the margin of the colonies there is a tendency to form flat, elongated (to 5 mm) marginal squamules with torn, eroded margins.

Apothecia and pycnidia unknown.

Chemistry. No substances detected by TLC.

Notes. An outstanding species, unlike any known in this genus, characterized by its finger-like, brittle protuberances which sometimes appear eroded and lace-like; they certainly function as dispersal units. In this character it resembles *Pannaria fimbriata* P. M. Jørg., a gelatinous species of the forest floor in Queensland (Jørgensen 2001*c*).

The thin, brittle thallus with a "violet" cyanobiont shows some similarity with the likewise exceptional *Parmeliella palmatula* P. M. Jørg. from Queensland in Australia. They appear to represent a most distinctive paleotropical part of the genus, possibly needing some kind of taxonomic recognition, but unfortunately at present not known with fully developed apothecia.

Habitat and distribution. As yet known only from the Mulu region in Borneo, and probably quite rare since B. J. Coppins, who was aware of its distinctness in the field, did not collect it elsewhere. It may therefore be a local taxon being restricted to these dark forests.

Additional specimen examined. **Sarawak:** Mulu National Park, Melinau Gorge Park, 1975, *B. L. Burtt* 8292 (E).

A new, corticolous species in Protopannaria

Among the material collected by W. Obermayer in Sichuan, a most characteristic species of the genus *Protopannaria* was discovered. It has no name, and is described below.

Protopannaria corticola P. M. Jørg. sp. nov.

Protopannariae pezizoidi similis, sed thallo corticola, melius evoluto, squamuloso, sporis minutis et glabris.

Typus: China, Sichuan, SE-Tibetian fringe Mountains (=Hengduan Shan), Daxue Shan, 57 km S of Kangding, Gongga Shan, Hailougou glacier and forest park, NW of Hailougou station, lateral margin area of glacier, 2980–3150 m, 28 July 2000, *W. Obermayer* 08893 (GZU—holotypus).

(Fig. 1H)

Thallus squamulose, 2–3 cm diam., greenish grey, mostly with white-pruinose margins, otherwise smooth, nearly shiny and corneous, 200–300 μ m thick with a cellular upper cortex, 40–50 μ m wide; no lower cortex, the medullary hyphae gradually merging into the richly developed blackish rhizohyphae. Cyanobiont *Nostoc* in clusters, individual cells 5–6 μ m.

Apothecia common, sessile, to 2 mm broad with prominent, crenulate, white-rimmed

thalline margin and orange-brown, flat disc, internally with reduced proper exciple, to 25 μ m wide. *Hymenium* resting on a distinct, pale brownish subhymenium of intricately interwoven hyphae, to 100 μ m wide; the hymenium itself 150–200 μ m high, I+ dingy blue. *Asci* subcylindrical, 100–130 × 10– 15 μ m, without internal amyloid apical structures, 8-spored. *Ascospores* colourless, simple, broadly ellipsoid, 12–15 × 7–10 μ m, smooth, without visible exospore.

Pycnidia not observed.

Chemistry. No substances detected by TLC.

Notes. A most characteristic species, somewhat reminiscent of *Protopannaria pezizoides* (Weber) P. M. Jørg. & Ekman, because of its large orange-brown apothecia, but with a clearly different, better developed thallus and smaller, smooth spores in addition to the unusual habitat (see below).

Habitat and distribution. As yet known only from the type locality where it grows on *Rhododendron* and *Salix* in a montane forest.

The discovery of this apparently first, genuinely corticolous species of the genus in the Himalayas is of considerable phytogeographical interest. This small, bipolar genus (6 species) which has most species (4) in the subantarctic region (Jørgensen 2001b) is basically a genus of species growing on mosses, debris or turf, or occasionally found on rotting bark of trees in damp habitats.

Additional specimens examined. China: Sichuan: Hengdu, Daxue Shan, Hailougou glacier and forest park, surrounding area of Hailougou Station, 2940–3130 m, 2000, W. Obermayer 08589, 08597 p.p. (GZU).

Key to sorediate species of Fuscopannaria in SE Asia

1

Thallus subfoliose, of radiating squamules up to 3 cm diam. with distinct marginal
lobeslobesThallus small-squamulose, individual squamules up to 3 mm diam., indistinctly
lobedlobed5

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2(1)	Thallus partly pruinose with true marginal soralia, often capitate; boreal (Kamtchatka, Sakhalin) F. ahlneri (P. M. Jørg.) P. M. Jørg. Thallus not pruinose, without true soralia; mostly subtropical to warm-temperate
3(2)	Thallus with marginal gymnidia; temperate (India, Sichuan)F. subgemmascens Upreti & DivkarThallus with soredia-like margins formed by scars of dislocated lobules
4(3)	Photobiont green, no lichen acids; Himalayan
5(1)	Squamules with gymnidia; subtropical F. coerulescens P. M. Jørg. Squamules with farinose or granular soredia; temperate
6(5)	Soralia farinose, labriform on the "frosted" margins of the thallus; warm-temperate (Japan)
7(6)	Thallus shiny grey- to red-brown with confluent isidioid soralia; boreal (Hokkaido-Ural) F. confusa (P. M. Jørg.) P. M. Jørg. Thallus dull pale brown (fawn) with punctiform soralia; Himalaya
	Key to the brightly coloured species of Parmeliella in East Asia
1	Thallus with a yellowish hue, medulla not coloured (Phillippines, New Guinea) P. flavida P. M. Jørg. Thallus grey-brown with strongly coloured medulla 2
2(1)	Thallus greyish with citrine yellow medulla, lobes discrete, sometimes with isidia, spores shorter than 15 μm (Philippines, Borneo, New Guinea)
I am abo (Edinburg their inte	ve all indebted to my friends Brian Coppins gh) and Walter Obermayer (Graz) for putting eresting collections at my disposal. Brian blea meet kindly mede weful comments on the

Coppins also most kindly made useful comments on the manuscript. In preparing this paper and in the study of the material, I have been generously supported by Mr Jan Berge, Mrs A. Botnen, Mrs B. Helle and Dr T. Tønsberg, all working in my department in Bergen. Jack Elix (Canberra) has kindly tried to identify the yellow pigments. To all of them my most sincere thanks.

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