

NOTES ON BRITISH RUST FUNGI

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Puccinia saxifragae Schlecht.

On *Saxifraga granulata*, Hopetoun, South Queensferry, April 1960. This rust has been recorded only once previously on this host in Britain, from Dovedale in 1924 (Trans. Brit. Mycol. Soc. x, 131, 1924). The abundant dark brown sori are so conspicuous that the paucity of records must reflect a genuine rarity. The same species is quite common on the montane host *Saxifraga stellaris* in Scotland, North Wales and Cumberland whilst on the robertsonian saxifrages *S. spathularis* and *S. umbrosa* it is known only from the west of Ireland. There is some evidence from Fischer (Uredineae der Schweiz, 1904, p. 151) that the race on *Saxifraga stellaris* is at least partially restricted to that host but there seems to be no experimental evidence for the other hosts.

Puccinia pazschkei var. *jueliana* (Diet.) Savile

Ellis and Dennis recorded this rust on *Saxifraga aizoides* in Sutherland [Kew Bull. 1957, 408 (1959)]. In the exceptionally dry summer of 1959 it was quite abundant in Perthshire and was also found in West Ross-shire. Infection seemed always to be heaviest on plants most subject to desiccation. The same was true of the single find of the rust on *Saxifraga oppositifolia* on Creag-an-Lochan, Killin in the same year. Infection could be found only on a very exposed tussock of the host. This relation between dryness and infection was strikingly demonstrated in the very wet summer of 1960 when on the same plants as were infected in 1959 very few sori could be found and then only after prolonged search.

Some collections of rusts of this group on *S. oppositifolia* have been described as distinct taxa—*P. pazschkei* var. *oppositifolia* by Savile (Can. J. Bot. xxxii, 400, 1954) and Jorstad (Nytt Mag. Bot. viii, 103, 1960) but the British collections seem indistinguishable from those on *Saxifraga aizoides* and are considered to belong to the variety *jueliana*. The central European *P. joerstadii* Rytz differs from the *P. pazschkei* group in having equatorial or subequatorial pores in the lower cell of the teliospore.

Milesina scolopendrii

The controversy over the acceptance of *Milesia* vs *Milesina* for the taxon of fern rusts is of long standing and the subject has been discussed recently by Deighton (Taxon ix, 231, 1960). With him, I am in full agreement regarding the fern rusts and rust fungi in general, that if the possibility that the author saw telia can be excluded his description should be rejected. Certainly White gave no indication that he observed the telia of his *Milesia*, therefore the name *Milesina* should be used. For British rusts one combination is required and here proposed.

Milesia scolopendrii (Faull) D. M. Henderson, **comb. nov.**

Milesia scolopendrii Faull in Contrib. Arn. Arbor. ii, 113 (1932) Basionym.

[*Ascospora scolopendrii* Fuckel, Symb. Mycol. Nachtr. 19 (1873)].

[*Milesia scolopendrii* (Fuckel) Jaap. in Fungi Sel. Exs. 571 (1912)].

This species has been referred to under a host of names all based upon descriptions of the uredo state until Faull's description of telia in 1932.

The *Puccinia recondita* group

The acceptance of the name *P. recondita* in place of *P. rubigo-vera* (for discussion of this see Cummins and Caldwell, Phytopath. 1956) for the complex group of graminicolous rusts necessitates new combinations under the latter for any subspecific categories recognised. In a forthcoming work on the British Rust Fungi it is proposed to recognise the various specialised races as *formae speciales*. These were treated in this way by Mains on the argument that they are more or less indistinguishable morphologically and subsequent work on them, although complicating the picture, has not produced sound evidence to contradict this. The following combinations are therefore proposed.

Puccinia recondita* Rob. & Desm. f. sp. *agropyrina* (Eriks.) **comb. nov.*

P. dispersa f. sp. *agropyri* Eriks. in Ber. D. Bot. Ges. xii, 316 (1894), nomen nudum.

P. agropyrina Eriks. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Ser. 8, ix, 273 (1899). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *agrostidis* (Oud.) **comb. nov.*

P. agrostidis Oud. Rev. Champ. i, 528 (1892). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *borealis* (Juel) **comb. nov.*

P. borealis Juel in Ofvers K. Vetensk.-Akad. Forh. li, 411 (1894). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *bromina* (Eriks.) **comb. nov.*

P. dispersa f. sp. *bromi* Eriks. in Ber. D. Bot. Ges. xii, 316 (1894) nomen nudum.

P. bromina Eriks. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Ser. 8, ix, 271 (1899). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *echii-agropyrina* (Gaum. et Terr.) **comb. nov.*

P. cerinthes-agropyrina f. sp. *echii-agropyrina* Gaum. et Terr. in Ber. Schweiz. Bot. Ges. lv, 242 (1953). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *holcina* (Eriks.) **comb. nov.*

P. holcina Eriks. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Ser. 8, ix, 274 (1894). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *perplexans* (Plowr.) **comb. nov.*

P. perplexans Plowr. in Grevillea, xiii, 53 (1884). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *persistens* (Plowr.) **comb. nov.*

P. persistens Plowr., Mon. Brit. Ured. Ust. 180 (1889). Basionym.

Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *triseti* (Eriks.) **comb. nov.*

P. triseti Eriks. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Ser. 8, ix, 277 (1899). Basionym.

***Puccinia recondita* f. sp. *triticea* (Eriks. & Henn.) comb. nov.**

P. dispersa f. sp. *tritici* Eriks. in Ber. D. Bot. Ges. xii, 316 (1894), nomen nudum.

P. triticea Eriks. & Henn. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Ser. 8, ix, 270 (1899).
Basionym.

The type host of *P. recondita* is *Secale cereale* so the special form on that host with its important synonyms is as follows:

Puccinia recondita* Rob. et Desm. f. sp. *recondita

P. dispersa Eriks. & Henn. in Ber. D. Bot. Ges. xii, 315 (1894).

P. secalina Grove, Brit. Rust Fungi, 261 (1913).