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Polish Botanical Journal 60(2): 307, 2015

DOI: 10.1515/pbj-2015-0030



WOLFGANG VON BRACKEL 2014. Kommentierter Katalog der flechtenbewohnenden Pilze Bayerns. Bibliotheca Lichenologica 109: 1–476, with 13 figures (graphs, drawings and color photos). J. Cramer in der Gebruder Borntraeger Verlagsbuchhandlung, Stuttgart. Soft cover, 22.5 × 14 cm. ISBN 978-3-443-58088-9; ISSN 1436-169 (Series). Price: 119.00 €

Kommentierter Katalog der flechtenbewohnenden Pilze Bayerns, by Wolfgang van Brackel, published in the series Bibliotheca Lichenologica, is the most comprehensive and professionally commented list of lichenicolous fungi of the German state of Bavaria. These fungi are an inconspicuous and a highly specialized group of organisms that form obligate, often multi-membered associations with lichens. In the recent surge of interest in lichenicolous fungi, there have never been so many papers published on them and so many new species described as in the past two decades. This has encouraged lichenologists to compile country and regional checklists of this important ecological group of fungi, as exemplified by the presented catalogue.

The catalogue contains 372 taxa representing 135 genera of nonlichenized lichenicolous fungi and 31 other allied taxa (e.g., partly lichenized fungi, unnamed anamorphs, facultative lichenicolous fungi). Overall, 403 taxa of 141 genera are presented. Five of the species are newly described: Hainesia aeruginascens Brackel, H. lecanorae Brackel, Microsphaeropsis physciae Brackel, Trichoconis physciicola Brackel and Trichonectria furcatosetosa Brackel. A new combination is also proposed, Xenonectriella protopannariae (Zhubr.) Brackel. The new species are presented along with Latin and English diagnoses and illustrated by color pictures and drawings of anatomical details. Interestingly, for each genus the author presents a brief summary of the state of knowledge about its biology, taxonomy, diversity and distribution. For each species he gives valuable information on its nomenclature (known synonyms), ecology (host lists) and biogeography (global, German and regional distributions). Published and herbarium regional records are supplemented in the great majority of cases by the author's numerous own findings. All known Bavarian records are arranged according to the administrative regions of the state. For selected species, additional nomenclatural and/or taxonomic notes are also provided. All information and data are backed by extensive citations. Notably, despite the tremendous amount of detailed information in the book, it is almost free of typos.



The catalogue is a very welcome annotated regional list of lichenicolous fungi, a most needed handbook, and a useful tool for all lichenologists interested in the world of fungi inhibiting lichen thalli. Thanks to the huge set of references (1382 cited items) the work is also an excellent guide thorough all of the known bibliography of lichenicolous fungi. The book's wealth of information and the clear arrangement of the catalogue make it a very valuable addition to the literature of this field.

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