

Validation of the basidiomycetous yeast species *Cryptococcus flavus* and *C. liquefaciens*

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Abstract — Novel combinations are proposed to validate the binomials of two currently accepted species belonging to the basidiomycetous yeast genus, *Cryptococcus*.

Key words — *Basidiomycota*, nomenclatural change

Introduction

When Phaff & Fell (1970) transferred *Rhodotorula flava* to the genus *Cryptococcus* Vuill. as *C. flavus*, they failed to cite the basionym, *Torula flava*. This omission rendered the new combination invalid (ICBN Art. 33.4; McNeil et al. 2006). Nonetheless, the name was accepted in subsequent yeast taxonomy treatises (e.g., Fell & Statzell-Tallman 1998, Rodrigues de Miranda 1984) and was confirmed as a separate species by several molecular phylogenetic studies (e.g., Fell et al. 2000, Scorzetti et al. 2002, Takashima & Nakase 1999).

Fonseca et al. (2000) transferred *Torulopsis liquefaciens* to the genus *Cryptococcus* as *C. liquefaciens*, but an incorrect citation of the basionym rendered the new combination invalid (ICBN Art. 33.4, Note 1). *Cryptococcus liquefaciens* was confirmed as a separate species by subsequent molecular phylogenetic studies (Scorzetti et al. 2002, Sugita et al. 2003). We hereby propose two novel combinations to validate the binomials *Cryptococcus flavus* and *C. liquefaciens*.

Nomenclatural changes

Cryptococcus flavus (Saito) Á. Fonseca, Boekhout & Fell, **comb. nov.**

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Basionym: *Torula flava* Saito, Japanese J. Botany 1(1): 45 (1922).

≡ *Chromotorula flava* (Saito) F.C. Harrison (1928).

≡ *Rhodotorula flava* (Saito) Lodder (1934).

≡ *Rhodotorula tokyoensis* var. *flava* (Saito) T. Haseg. (1958).

= "*Cryptococcus flavus*" (Saito) Phaff & Fell (1970), *nom. inval.* (Art. 33.4).

Cryptococcus liquefaciens (Saito & M. Ota) Á. Fonseca, Boekhout & Fell, **comb. nov.**

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Basionym: *Torulopsis liquefaciens* Saito & M. Ota, J. Brewery Science (Japan) 12: 167 (1934).

= "*Cryptococcus liquefaciens*" (Saito & M. Ota) Á. Fonseca, Scorzetti & Fell (2000), *nom. inval.* (Art. 33.4).

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