

A new species of *Clitocybe*

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Introduction

The monographs of *Clitocybe* by HARMAJA (1969) and BIGELOW (1982) have greatly contributed towards a more natural infrageneric classification. However, there still exist some species which do not really fit into their schemes. One such aberrant species is described here, and a new section is erected to accommodate it.

Taxonomy

Clitocybe sectio *Puberulae* KUYP., sect. nov.

Basidiocarpi non revivescentes. Pileus hygrophanus, haud striatus, pruinoso-puberulus. Pileipellis trichodermiformis, hyphis erectis. Cheilocystidia presentia. Typus: *C. puberula* KUYP.

Basidiocarps non-revivescent. Pileus hygrophanous, not translucently striate, pruinose-puberulous. Pileipellis a trichoderm of ascending to erect hyphae. Cheilocystidia present.

Description

Clitocybe puberula KUYP., sp. nov. — Fig. 1.

Basidiocarpi non revivescentes. Pileus 12–56 mm latus, saepe irregularis, depressus vel infundibuliformis, primo margine involuto, hygrophanus, haud striatus, primo griseo-brunneus vel sordide brunneus, pallescens, demum pallide ochraceo-brunneus, initio pruinoso-puberulus, demum rugoso-subpuberulus. Lamellae adnatae vel subdecurrentes, crassiusculae, angustae, saepe furcatae, sordide brunneolae vel pallide griseolo-brunneae. Stipes 17–45 mm longus, 3–7 mm crassus, basi aequalis vel incrassatus, saepe curvatus, mox fistulosus, pileo concolor, apice albopuberulus, deorsum striatus, basi substrigosus. Odor subrancidus saporque rancidus. Sporae in cumulo albae, 6.5–8.0(–8.5) × 3.5–5.0 μm , laeves, acyanophilae, inamyloideae. Cheilocystidia 34–47 μm longa, 4–6 μm crassa, cylindrica, flexuosa, hyalina. Pileipellis trichodermiformis, hyphis erectis, 5–10 μm latis, pigmento intracellulari vel laeviter incrustantibus. Fibulae presentes. Veri. Gregatim ad scobes. Typus legit POULAIN, Gallia, dept. Doubs, in valli Dessoubre, 1. I. 1969 (L).

Basidiocarps non-revivescent. — Pileus 12–56 mm broad, often irregular, with central depression to funnel-shaped, margin involute in young specimens, hygrophanous, but not translucently striate, when young dark grey-brown, then sordid brown, pallescent on drying to pale ochraceous brown, young specimens conspicuously

pruinose-puberulous by minute white hairs, later more rugose-puberulous at centre and still pruinose-puberulous towards margin. – Lamellae [$L = 30-40$, $l = 3-7$] somewhat thickish, crowded, broadly adnate to subdecurrent, to 5 mm broad, often furcate, greyish brown to sordid brownish, with even, concolorous edge. – Stipe 17–45×3–7 mm, often with subclavate base, soon fistulose, concolorous with pileus, somewhat darkening downwards, at apex

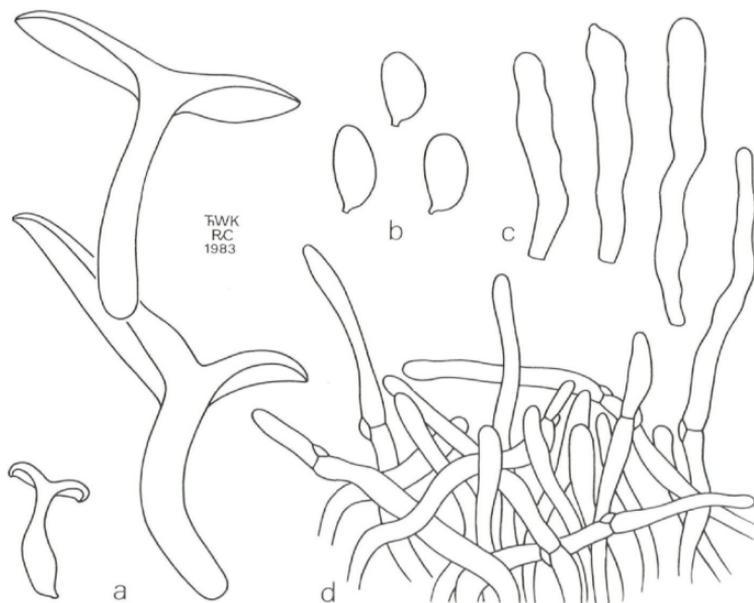


Fig. 1. *Clitocybe puberula* Kuyf.: a basidiocarp (natural size). – b. spores (×1500). – c. cheilocystidia (×1000). – d. pileipellis (×1000).

with minute white hairs, downwards whitish-striate, at base stri-gose. – Context rather elastic, hygrophanous, becoming sordid isabella on drying. – Smell when cut faint, subrancid. Taste distinctly rancid. – Spore-print white. Spores [20, 1]: $6.5-8.0(-8.5) \times 3.5-5.0 \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 1.6-1.9$, inamyloid, acyanophilous, only a small minority in tetrads, with acute to obtuse base. – Basidia $17-22 \times 5-6 \mu\text{m}$, 4-spored. – Cheilocystidia $34-47 \times 4-6 \mu\text{m}$, cylindrical, flexuose, thin-walled, colourless, protruding $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of length. – Hymenophoral trama subregular, with cylindrical to inflated hyphae, 4–17(–22) μm broad. – Pilei-

pellis a loose trichoderm of ascending to erect hyphae, 5–10 μm broad; pigment intracellular and minutely incrusting. – Clamps present.

Habitat: Gregarious, on sawdust. May.

Material examined: FRANCE: dept. Doubs, Dessoubre valley, leg. POULAIN, s. n. (holotypus in L; isotypus in H, IB, MASS).

The most distinctive character of *C. puberula* is the structure of the pileipellis, viz. a trichoderm of ascending to erect hyphae. There are two species of *Clitocybe*, *C. alnetorum* FAVRE (nomen nudum) and *C. dryadicola* (FAVRE) HARM., in which the pileipellis is said to consist partly of erect, gnarled to coralloid hyphae. According to SINGER (1975) these species would better fit in the genus *Neoclitocybe* SING. However, his arguments did not convince me, as the genus *Neoclitocybe* is at the same time characterized by either a so-called Rameales-structure, or an instititious stipe. For the time being it seems therefore better to leave *C. alnetorum* and *C. dryadicola* also in *Clitocybe*.

On account of its cylindrical-flexuose cheilocystidia, one could assume a relationship with species of *Clitocybe* sect. *Aberrantissimae* SING. However, as the species of this section possess a cutis, which might be slightly gelatinized, a close affinity with *C. puberula* does not seem likely.

HUIJSMAN (1971) was the first to point out that *C. puberula* (which was dealt by him under the provisional name *C. celluloderma*) is non-revivescent. This character, which has been widely neglected, might prove to be important in arriving at a more natural classification in *Clitocybe*. As far as known to date, *C. puberula* is the only hygrophanous species which is non-revivescent.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Sydowia](#)

Jahr/Year: 1983

Band/Volume: [36](#)

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Artikel/Article: [A new species of Clitocybe. 173-175](#)