Inocybe sectio Calosporae in NW Europe

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Two species in the section Calosporae are recognized in NW Europe: Inocybe calospora Quelét and I. multicoronata A.H. Smith. The species are described, illustrated and mapped, and their ecology and taxonomic relationships are discussed. I. multicoronata is reported as new to Europe, where it is known from one locality in Finland.

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The section Calosporae J. Lange sensu Horak in the genus Inocybe is characterized by subglobose to ellipsoid spores, covered with conical, bifurcate, crest-like or saddle-shaped projections. The carpophores are slender with a usually squamulose or squarrose pileus. Some species have a cortina or veil. The stipe varies from totally or apically pruinose to fibrillose to even squamulose. Most species are tropical (Horak 1979, 1981).

The only species in the Holarctic region accepted in this study are I. calospora Quelét and I. multicoronata A.H. Smith. The latter, hitherto reported only from Nova Scotia, Canada (Smith 1939, Grund & Stuntz 1968), was recently found in Finland.

As I. multicoronata clearly resembles I. calospora macroscopically, the material of I. calospora was checked in the following herbaria: C, GB, H, IB, KUO, LD, O, OULU, S, THR, TUR, UPS. No specimens of I. multicoronata were found, and no specimens deposited under that name were received on loan from these herbaria.

The descriptions of the species are based on Nordic material. The colours of fresh specimens were compared with Cailleux, Code des Couleurs des Sols. The microscopical characters of material in 10% NH4OH solution were drawn with a Leitz drawing tube. The spore dimensions were obtained by measuring 20 spores from each collection studied.

Key to species

1. Spores with blunt, conical-cylindrical spines; pleurocystidia less than 60 µm in length. ................. I. calospora

- Spores with compound warts, crowned with smaller obtuse projections; pleurocystidia longer than 60 µm .......... I'. multicoronata

Inocybe calospora Quelét — Figs. 1-5


Inocybe gaillardii Gillet, Rev. Mycol. 5:31. 1883.


Inocybe echinocarpa Ellis & Everh., J. Mycol. 5:26. 1889.


Pileus 0.3–2.5 cm in diam, 2–8 mm high, conical to hemispherical when young, then conico-convex, mostly distinctly umbonate; surface felted, often with small fibrillose squamules, recurved especially around disc, usually not splitting but sometimes rimulose to disc; mostly dark brown (50/T, 51/T), sometimes reddish brown (37/T), disc concolorous or darker, rarely yellow-brown (67/N). Lamellae up to 4 mm broad, slightly adnexed, whitish to pale grey when young, then grey-brown (70/N), then brown (47/R, 75/P); edge fimbriate, concolorous or paler. Cortina not seen. Stipe 1.5–5 cm long, 1–3 mm wide, equal to somewhat clavate to subbulbous (base up to 5 mm wide), solid, pruinose all over, longitudinally striate; reddish brown (27/S, 50/P, 49/R), brown, dark brown (51/T), yellow-brown, vineaceous-brown, apex sometimes paler, base white. Context
pileus whitish, pale yellow-brown to brown, in stipe yellow-brown to brown. Smell indistinct.

Spores (including the spines) (10-)11-14(-17) x (8.5-)9.5-12.5(-14) µm, range of mean values 11.7-13.7 x 9.1-11.8 µm, the average measurements for 22 collections being 12.8 x 10.9 µm, Q = (1.0-)1.1-1.3(-1.4), Q = 1.1-1.3, the average for 22 collections being 1.18, broadly ellipsoid to subglobose, spines 1.5-4 µm long, blunt. Basidia 30-45 x 9-14 µm, clavate to somewhat ventricose, 4-spored. Pleurocystidia (27-)37-55(-62) x (8-)10-15 (-18) µm, fusoid to clavate, typically with a long, cylindrical or downward-tapering pedicel, wall mostly yellowish, up to 3(-4) µm thick; fairly frequent. Cheilocystidia similar to pleurocystidia, but mostly without pedicel, frequent. Paracystidia 13-25 x 7-12 µm, pyriform to clavate, thin-walled, colourless, fairly frequent. Caulocystidia occurring down to base of stipe, although scarce on lower third, rather irregular, up to 70 µm long, mixed with numerous cauloparacystidia. Cuticle composed of hyphae 4-21 µm in diam, with brown, incrusted walls.

In Fennoscandia slightly calciphilous, mostly on lawns and in forests on roadsides or by paths, with at least Betula and Quercus. Rather rare from Temperate to Southern Boreal zone, and very rare up to Or­c­arctic zone. June to October.
Discussion

*Inocybe calospora* is easily identified macroscopically, but can be confused with the very rare *I. multicorona* or with *I. leptophylla* Atk. (*I. casimiri* Velen., *I. lanuginosa* (Bull. ex Fr.) Kummer var. *casimiri* (Velen.) R. Heim). The latter species has spores with only low knobs, and its stipe is not pruinose at all. Horak (1987) reported that the collection of *I. calospora* made by M. Lange in Greenland is *Astrosporina casimiri* (Velen.) Horak, but the microscopical characters of this tiny specimen do not match the drawings of the type specimen of *I. casimiri* by Kuyper (1985). So I agree with the original determination made by M. Lange. I prefer to synonimize *I. gaillardii* Gillet with *I. calospora*, as already done, e.g. by Heim (1931) and Alessio (1980). The illustrations of *I. calospora* by Rebadengo (in Alessio 1980) accord with my field experience from Finland, but the colours in my material have been much darker. In the present study area the species is, however, easily recognized under the microscope. In the tropics of Indomalaya and Australasia the genus is represented by some other species with stellate spores (Horak 1979).

Alessio (1980) reported a wide range of variation in the macroscopical characters of *I. calospora*. Some variation may be found in the collections in the microscopical characters as well (size and shape of spores and cystidia, length of spines of spores, thickness of cystidial wall, and frequency of apical crystals on cystidia; Figs. 3–5). As these characters show considerable overlapping, the collections studied are treated as conspecific. The northernmost specimens, however, seem to have shorter spines on the spores.

*I. calospora* is known to have a wide distribution in the northern hemisphere. Besides occurring in Europe, it is reported to grow in India, the Himalayas (Horak 1981), Japan (Kobayasi 1952), the United...
Fig. 6. Distribution of *Inocybe calospora* and *I. multicoronata* in NW Europe according to the material examined.

States (Kauffman 1924), Canada (Grund & Stuntz 1980) and Greenland (Lange 1957).

In the study area *I. calospora* can be regarded as a rather rare species (Fig. 6), as also reported for Italy (Alessio 1980), the Netherlands (Arnolds 1984) and East Germany (Kreisel 1987). In Estonia it has been collected in three localities (Leisner & Kalamees 1987). In NW Europe most collection sites lie in the Temperate and Hemiboreal zones. In Finland *I. calospora* also has rare occurrences in the Southern Boreal zone and has been recorded once in the Northern Boreal zone. In at least one case it has been found on a mountain above the timberline, in Norway (Gulden & Lange 1971).

In Fennoscandia *I. calospora* has mostly been found growing on old lawns, and on roadsides or by paths in forests. When growing in parks, the species clearly favours bare ground, but fruits among grasses and mosses, as well. In the Nordic material studied, it has been collected only once beside a brook (Norway, Nord-Trøndelag), whereas in Central Europe the species is often reported to grow under *Alnus* in
swampy and springy sites (e.g. Kreisel 1987, Stangl et al. 1987). *I. calospora* seems to prefer somewhat nutrient-rich, moist, calcareous soils. Some collections have, however, been made in rather dry sites. According to the information on labels, the collection sites have mostly had mould with a fine sand fraction, but occasionally muddy peaty mould or clay (ground cultivated previously). On my many visits to the surroundings of Finnish limestone-processing factories (with emissions of chalk dust) I have never found *I. calospora* in these areas. In Fennoscandia the species is mostly found under deciduous trees. It grows with *Betula* and *Quercus*, possibly also with *Pinus*, *Corylus*, *Tilia* and *Salix*.

In Fennoscandia *I. calospora* has a long fruiting season, beginning in late June, reaching a peak in late July–early September, and ceasing in mid-October (Fig. 9). The only specimen collected in the study area in June comes from Helsinki, Southern Finland. In Finland the fruiting period lasts to early September. All collections dating from late September to late October were made in SW Sweden, Gothenburg, in 1945. *I. calospora* seems to fruit irregularly, often being absent for many years without any clear climatic reasons, or the species is ephemeral. For example in 1981 I found an abundant occurrence in Kuopio, Central Finland, on a lawn in a park. In the following six years the site was visited regularly, but no fruit bodies were found.

**Specimens examined:**

Inocybe multicoronata A.H. Smith — Figs. 7, 8

Pileus 0.5–2 cm in diam, 3–6 mm high, hemispherical or conico-convex when young, then expanding, obtusely umbonate; surface mostly fibrillose-squamulose, sometimes fibrillose-subtomentose, margin often grooved and whitish due to remnants of

Fig. 9. Fruiting periods of Inocybe calospora (above) and I. multicoronata (below) according to all specimens examined, divided into pentads.
cortina, which is present in very young specimens; dark brown (33/T, 33/S), but squamules whitish. Lamellae up to 3 mm broad, slightly adnexed, pale brown when young, then brown (49/N, 49/P); edge fimbriate, pale. Stipe 1.8–5.5 cm long, 1–2 mm wide, equal to somewhat clavate, solid; pruinose on nearly third, weakly longitudinally striate, shiny; reddish brown (25/R, 35/R, 35/T), paler to sometimes nearly white at base. Context in pileus pale brown to brown, darkest under surface, in stipe pale to dark reddish, whitish in apex, darkest under cortex of stipe. Smell indistinct.

Spores (including the warts) 12–14 x 10–12 (–13) µm, average 13.0 x 11.1 µm, Q = 1.1–1.2 (–1.4), Q = 1.2, subglobose to ellipsoid, with multicorona warts. Basidium 29-46 x 15–21 µm, clavate, 4-spored. Pleurocystidia (50-70–90(–105) x 14–23 (–26) µm, subventricose to ventricose, rarely subcapitate, with up to 3 µm thick, colourless to slightly yellowish wall, fairly frequent. Cheilocystidia similar to pleurocystidia, frequent. Paracystidia 21–33 x 11–18 µm, broadly clavate to pyriform, thin-walled, colourless, frequent. Caulocystidia occurring to over half-way down stipe, mostly subcylindrical, up to 120 µm long, mixed with sparse cauloparacystidia. Cuticle composed of hyphae 5–23 µm in diam, with brown, incrusted walls.

In Fennoscandia very rare, twice recorded under deciduous and coniferous trees along a spring brook. Southern Boreal zone. August.

Discussion

The Finnish collection fits well with the macroscopical description by Smith (1939), and the detailed microscopical diagnosis of Grund & Stuntz (1968). The dimensions of the spores and pleurocystidia also agree with those in the holotype collection of *I. multicoronata*, which measured (my measurements): spores (11.5–)12–13.5(–14) x 10–11.5 (–13) µm, average 12.7 x 10.8 µm, Q = 1.1–1.2 (–1.3), Q = 1.2; pleurocystidia 67–95 x 13–23 µm.

*I. multicoronata* is easily recognized under the microscope, and also differs macroscopically from *I. calospora*. The scales on the pileus are whitish, the stipe is white-fibrillose and lacks pruina on the lower third, and a cortina is present in juvenile fruit bodies. The dried Finnish specimens have a shiny pileus, darkest under surface, in stipe pale to dark reddish, whitish in apex, darkest under cortex of stipe. Fairly natural site in Finland. The type of the species was collected beside a brook (according to the label), like the Finnish specimen. On the other hand, like many members of the genus, both species favour bare ground.

The spores of *I. multicoronata* are rather unusual for the genus. Only some tropical species of *Inocybe* have somewhat similar spores: *I. hyperythra* Rick (Singer 1953), *I. petchii* Boed. (Boedijn 1951), *I. lasserii* Dennis (Dennis 1953, Pegler & Young 1972, Pegler 1983), *Astrosporina lassersoides* Horak and A. *alienospora* Corner & Horak (Horak 1979). Among these, only *I. petchii* has a totally pruinose stipe.

*I. multicoronata* was found twice in Central Finland, Kuopio, Neulaniemi, Grid 27°E: 69770:5296, alt. 100 m, in early August, in an old, shady herb rich forest on alluvial soil, by a small spring brook, near to *Picea abies*, *Betula pendula*, *Alnus glutinosa*, *Populus tremula*, *Prunus padus*, *Daphne mezereum*, *Circaea alpina*, *Crepis paludosa*, *Filipendula ulmaria* and *Oxalis acetosella*. The fungi growing in the vicinity were *Inocybe nitidiuscula* (Britz.) Sacc., *Lactarius deterrimus* Gröger and *Russula Lundellii* Sing. In the cool and rainy summer of 1987 the site was flooded even in August, and no specimen of *I. multicoronata* was seen. The locality lies in the northern part of the Southern Boreal zone.

The collection sites of *I. multicoronata* in Canada, Nova Scotia, are located near to Fundy Bay, where it was reported to grow under spruce (Smith 1939, Grund & Stuntz 1968). Nova Scotia lies within the boreo-nemoral transition zone (Pielou 1979), and the climatic conditions at the collection sites may not be very different from those in Central Finland, though the climate is more oceanic. In the United States (New York), the species has been collected by A.H. Smith, but, as far as I know, the collection has not been reported. According to the material examined the species fruits from late July to late August (Fig. 9).

Specimens examined:

**Finland.** Pohjola-Savo: Kuopio, 1986 J. Vauras 2140F (H, KUO, M, OULU, TUR), 1988 J. Vauras 3112 (TUR).

**Canada.** Nova Scotia: Colchester, 1931 A.H. Smith (holotype, paratype; MICH).

**United States.** New York, 1934 A.H. Smith 353 (MICH).

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