# Two newly recorded hypogeous fungi in Taiwan—Endogone flammicorona and Sclerogaster compactus

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### **ABSTRACT**

Two newly recorded species of hypogeous fungi, *Endogone flammicorona* (Zygomycota) and *Sclerogaster compactus* (Basidiomycota), were collected from plantation of *Picea morrisonicola* along Dasyueshan Trail in central Taiwan, at the altitude of 2500 m.

Key words: Basidiomycota, false truffles, pea truffles, Picea morrisonicola, Zygomycota

## Introduction

Hypogeous fungi produce fruiting bodies among layers of leaf-litters underground and do not actively disperse spores, being spread passively by their animal vectors. They are classified in three phyla, with true truffles belonging to Ascomycota, false truffles to Basidiomycota, and pea truffles to Zygomycota. *Tuber* species in the Ascomycota are well-known as gourmet hypogeous fungi, while other hypogeous fungi remain

unknown for their edibility. In Taiwan, four species of basidiomycete and zygomycete hypogeous truffles have been reported previously: *Rhizopogon rubescens* (Tul. & C. Tul.) Tul. & C. Tul., *Hymenogaster arenarius* Tul. & C. Tul., *Descomyces albellus* (Massee & Rodway) Bougher & Castellano, and *Gymnoglossum connectens* (Bucholtz) Zeller (Hu, 2002; Chou, 2011, 2016). In this study, we reported two newly recorded hypogeous fungi collected from plantation of *Picea morrisonicola* Hayata in Taiwan; *Endogone flammicorona* Trappe & Gerdem. is a

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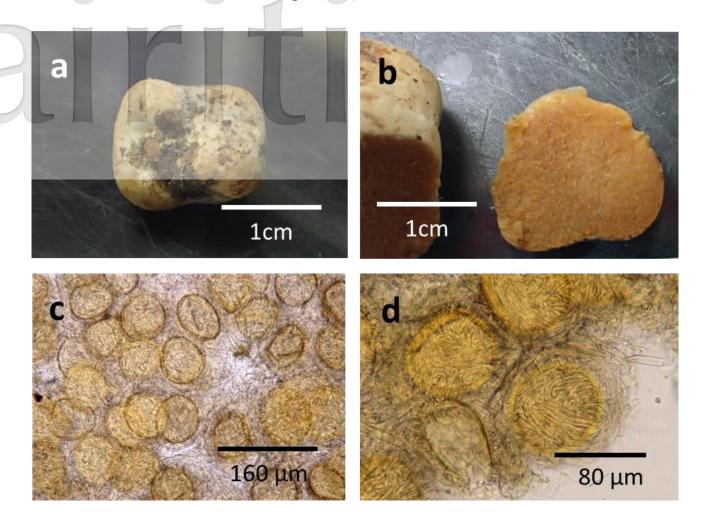
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**Fig. 1.** Endogone flammicorona. a. Sporocarp. b. Yellowish-orange gleba. c. Zygospores surrounded by agglutinated hyphae. d. Fingerprint-like ornamentation on zygospores.

pea truffle and *Sclerogaster compactus* (Tul. & C. Tul.) Sacc. is a false truffle.

# **Taxonomy**

Endogone flammicorona Trappe & Gerdem., Trans. Brit. Mycol. Soc. 59: 405 (1972) Fig. 1

Sporocarp hypogeous, irregularly subglobose, ca 1cm diam. Peridium smooth, thin, pale-brown. Gleba yellowish-orange, densely packed. Zygosporangia not observed. Zygospores subglobose or ovoid, yellowish-orange,  $75-90 \times 87.5-97.5$  µm, surrounded by agglutinated and condensed

hyphal layer 15–17.5 μm thick, ornamented with conspicuous looped and pseudohelical ridges.

**Specimen examined:** TAIWAN. Taichung County, Dasyueshan Trail, 2500 m elev., beneath piled leaves under plantation of *Picea morrisonicola*, 8 Aug 2016, *Lin*, *C.-L*.

**Distribution:** Italy, Taiwan, UK, and USA.

**Remarks:** *Endogone flammicorona* is similar to *E. lactiflua* Berk. & Br., from which it differs by the significant fingerprint-like spore ornamentation with the appearance of tongues of flame

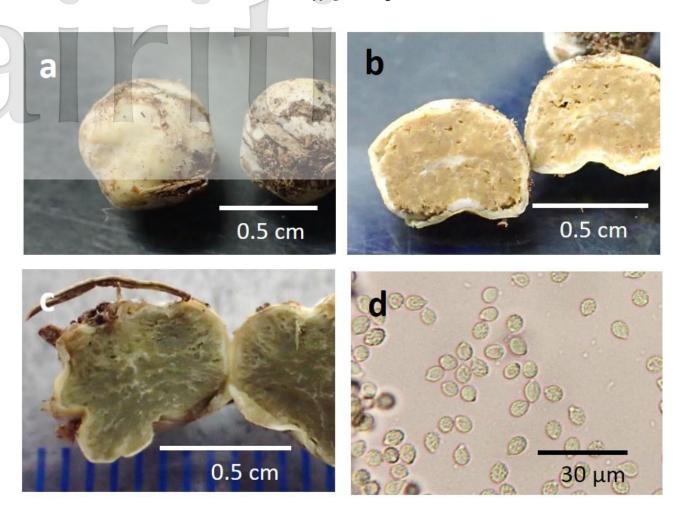


Fig.2. Sclerogaster compactus. a. Gastrocarp. b, c. Yellowish-brown to yellowish-green gleba with white veins. d. Tiny verrucous basidiospores.

(Trappe and Gerdemann, 1972). This species has been reported to form an ectomycorrhizal association with Pinaceae (Gerdemann and Trappe, 1974), and were found in humus associated with both coniferous and deciduous trees in the UK (Pegler et al., 1993).

Sclerogaster compactus (Tul. & C. Tul.) Sacc., Syll. Fung. 11: 170 (1895) Fig. 2 ≡ Octaviania compacta Tul. & C. Tul., Giorn. Bot. Ital., Ann. 1, 2(1): 56 (1844)

Gastrocarp hypogeous, irregularly globose, small, less than 1 cm diam. Peridium smooth,

white to milky yellow. Gleba dense, yellowish-brown to yellowish-green, with white veins. Basidia not observed. Basidiospores pale green to pale yellow,  $7.5 \times 5 \mu m$ , mostly ovoid, with thickened wall ornamented with tiny verrucae.

**Specimen examined:** TAIWAN. Taichung County, Dasyueshan Trail, 2500 m elev., beneath piled leaves under plantation of *Picea morrisonicola*, 8 Aug 2016, *Lin*, *C.-L*.

**Distrubution:** France, Germany, Italy, Taiwan, and UK.

**Remarks:** Sclerogaster compactus is distinct in having a small and compact gastrocarp and tiny verrucous basidiospores. It was found in leaf litter or decomposing organic layer, likely not forming a mycorrhizal association with plant roots.

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# 兩種臺灣新記錄地下真菌—火冠豆松露與緻密硬皮腹菌

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# 摘 要

本文描述兩種臺灣新記錄地下真菌,分別為接合菌門的火冠豆松露( $Endogone\ flammicorona$ )與擔子菌門的緻密硬皮腹菌( $Sclerogaster\ compactus$ ),皆採自臺灣中部大雪山林道、海拔 2500 m 的臺灣雲杉人工林。

關鍵詞:擔子菌、假松露、接合菌、豆松露、臺灣雲杉