

MYXOMYCETES FROM CHINA VI:
A new species of *Dianema*

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ABSTRACT: A new species of myxomycetes, *Dianema microsporangium* sp. nov., is described and illustrated by line drawings. Differences between this and other *Dianema* species are discussed. Type specimen of the new species is deposited in HMAS. This is the first record of a *Dianema* species in China.

KEY WORDS: Myxomycetes; *Dianema*; *Dianema microsporangium*

Since the genus *Dianema* Rex was established in 1891 to date ruly, eight species have been accepted but none from China. In this report a new species of *Dianema* found in Fujian, China is described.

***Dianema microsporangium* H.-z. Li et Y. Li sp. nov. Fig. 1**

Sporangia singulalia vel dispersa, sessilia, complano-pulvinata, tenuia minima, ellipiticam, $250-375 \times 150-200 \mu\text{m}$ diam., $50-70 \mu\text{m}$ alta, plumbea, nitentia. Peridium singulare, membranaceum, plus minusve translucens, sub maturitate irregulariter dehiscens. Hypothallus murinus, tenuis, nitens. Capillitium laxum, rigidum, dichotome ramosum, laevigatum $52-65 \mu\text{m}$ longum, $1-1.5 \mu\text{m}$ diam., ramificatio $4-10 \mu\text{m}$ longa, basi peridium adhaerens. Sporae saturate plumbeae, luce transmissa pallide griseo-brunneae, globosae verrucosae, $10-13(-15) \mu\text{m}$ diam. Plasmodium ignotum.

Sporangia solitary to loosely scattered, sessile, flattened-pulvinate, minute, nearly elliptical, $250-375 \times 150-200 \mu\text{m}$, $50-70 \mu\text{m}$ thick, lead gray, glossy. Peridium membranous, thin, more or less translucent, almost colorless, dehiscing irregularly above at maturity. Hypothallus thin, mouse gray, shining. Capillitium loose, thread-like, colorless, shining, bifurcate, $52-65 \mu\text{m}$ long and $1-1.5 \mu\text{m}$ wide, $4-10 \mu\text{m}$ at the branching part, rigid, attached to the peridium at the base. Spores lead gray, light brown by transmitted light, globose, warted, $10-13(-15) \mu\text{m}$ in diam. Plasmodium unknown.

Etymology: From Latin "microsporangium", referring to the very small sporangia.

Holotypus: Sanming, Fujian. On dead litter. 18 July, 1974. Li Hui-zhong 'Min' 152 (HMAS 59508).

Distribution: known only from the type locality.

Amongst the eight accepted *Dianema* species, *D. depressum* (A. Lister) A. Lister, *D. subretisporum* Kowalski and *D. aggregatum* Kowalski have reticulate spores, whereas *D. microsporangium* collected in China has verrucose spores. Of the other species which have

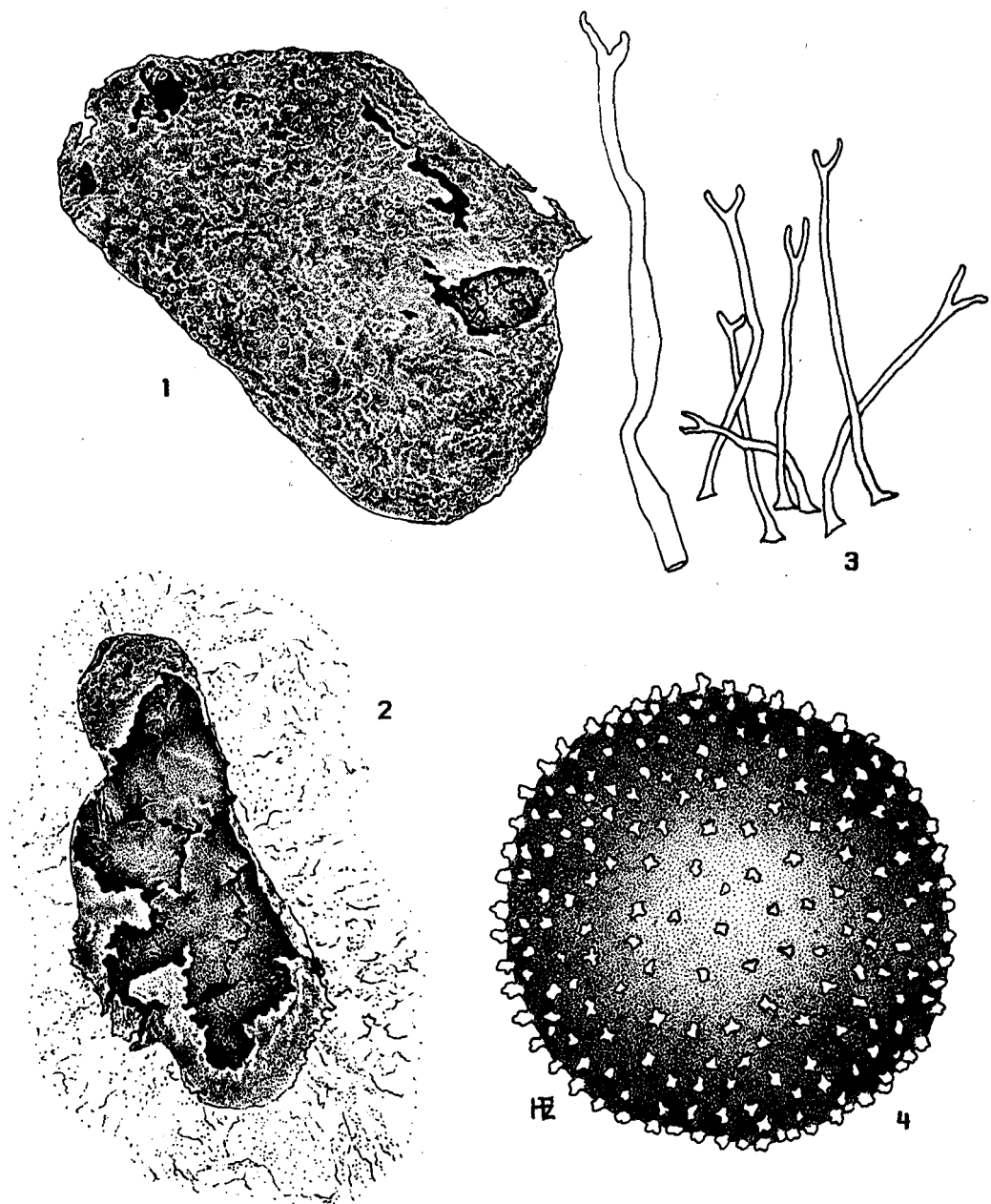


Fig. 1 *Dianema microsporangium* H.-z. Li et Y. Li sp. nov. 1. A sporangium ($\times 300$). 2. A sporangium ($\times 200$). 3. Capillitial threads ($\times 2,000$ and $2,500$). 4. A spore ($\times 8,000$).

spores with spines and warts, *D. corticatum* A. Lister and *D. repens* G. Lister have spores all adhering in clusters and their fructifications are plasmodiocarps. Also other characters, such as size and color of the plasmodiocarp, capillitium and peridium of these two species are unlike those of *D. microsporangium*. Although spores of *D. nivale* (Meylan) G. Lister are warted and minute, the shape and color of sporangia, the characters of capillitia, and color of spores are distinct from those of the new species found in China. *D. harveyi* Rex is the only species comparatively similar to *D. microsporangium*, but the sporangia of the former are ochraceous to dull red or brown, iridescent, relatively large (0.5–2 mm) and thick (0.35–1 mm), the spores are 8–10 μm in diameter and covered with spines; while in the latter, sporangia are lead gray, smaller and thin ($250\text{--}375 \times 150\text{--}200 \mu\text{m}$, 50–70 μm thick), the spores are marked with warts and not spines, 10–13(–15) μm in diameter. *D. mongolicum* Novozh. described in the USSR can be distinguished from *D. microsporangium* by the vernicose capillitial threads and spiny spores, distinguishable from *D. microsporangium*.

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中国粘菌 VI: 散丝菌属一新种

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摘要: 本文报告了粘菌一新种, 小囊散丝菌 *Dianema microsporangium* sp. nov., 讨论了新种与本 其它种的区别, 模式标本保存在中国科学院微生物研究所真菌标本室。散丝菌属在中国 首次报导。

关键词: 粘菌; 散丝菌; 小囊散丝菌