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FLAVIPORUS SEMISUPINIFORMIS (POLYPORACEAE) IN ITALY

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Several interesting or rare fungi were collected in the Mesola forest of Italy. One polypore, identified as *Flaviporus semisupiniformis* is of interest because this species was known only from Mexico (Ginns 1980). A description of the Italian specimen is given and it is compared with the type specimen.

FLAVIPORUS SEMISUPINIFORMIS (Murr.) Ginns

Basidiome when dry pileate, lobed, overall 3 cm broad and deep, and 1.3 mm thick, broadly attached; the margin white, densely cottony, even to slightly lobed, up to 0.5 mm wide; pileus surface of matted, radiating fibrils or with a glabrous, thin crust, pallid to pale yellowish brown; context pallid, woody but soft, becoming fibrous when wetted, up to 0.2 mm thick; pore layer 1.1 mm thick the pores somewhat collapsed and angular, thin-walled, (5-)6 per mm, the mouths even, granulose (i.e., appearing frosted).

Hyphal system dimitic. Hyphae inamyloid, non-dextrinoid and acyanophilous. Context generative hyphae branched, hyaline, thin to moderately thick-walled, 2.5-5µm diam., bearing large, prominent clamp connections; skeletal hyphae rarely branched, rather straight, aseptate, 3-5µm diam., the walls pale yellow, smooth, 0.8-2µm thick. Tramal generative hyphae as in the context but the skeletal hyphae straight to slightly wavy, 2.5-3.5(-4)µm diam., the walls 0.5-1µm thick with some hyphae more contorted, infrequently branched and slightly narrower. Cystidia (Fig. 1) common, scattered throughout the trama, some projecting through the hymenium, cylindrical with the apex clavate to lanceolate, thick-walled, about 40-100 X 7-9µm, approx. 40µm of the apical part incrusted; cystidioles lacking; basidia (Fig. 1) clavate, 12-16 X 5-6µm, narrowed to 3µm diam. at

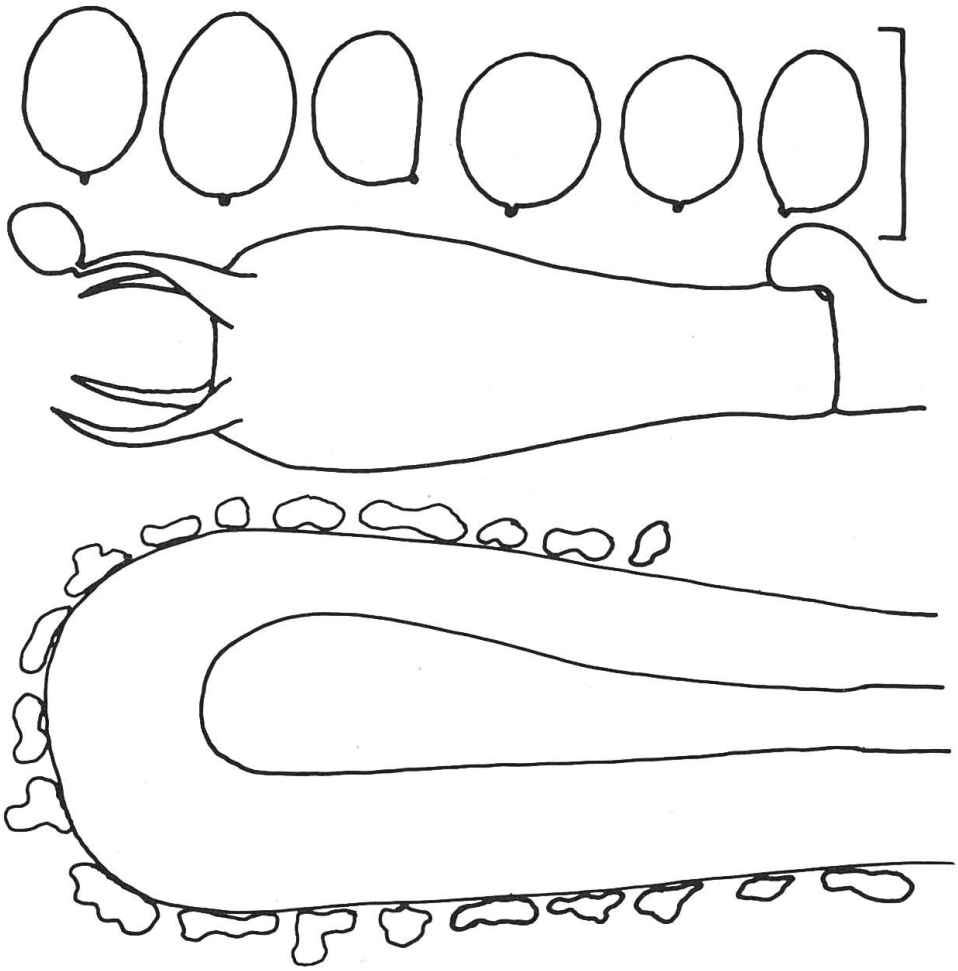

Figure 1: *Flaviporus semisupiniformis*. Basidiospores, basidium and crystalline incrusted cystidial apex. Bar = 5µm.

the base, with 4 sterigmata, 3µm long; spores (Fig. 1) broadly ellipsoid, some subglobose, 3.6-4.2 X 2.5-3.2µm, the wall hyaline, thin, smooth, acyanophilous, inamyloid, non-dextrinoid, with a minute apiculus.

Specimen examined: Italia, Mesola Forest (Ferrara), 22 Oct. 1981, A. Bernicchia 341 (Bologna and DAOM 185538).

Substratum: On *Fraxinus ?oxycarpa* trunk lying on the ground.

The excellent condition of the specimen when collected has allowed a more detailed description of the basidia. The type specimen, re-described by Ginns (1980), differed in having smaller pores (10 per mm), cystidia confined to the lower half of the tube-layer, slightly smaller spores (2.5-3µm in diam.), and scattered cystidioles. The cystidia and gross morphology of the Italian collection were identical with the illustrations of the type (Ginns 1980). Additional collections from Mexico and Italy will be needed before the significance of these differences can be evaluated.

This fungus was collected in the Mesola forest (Ferrara, Italy) which extends along the Adriatic coast, about half-way between Ravenna and Venice. It belongs to the *Quercion-ilicis* vegetation type and was probably established during the tenth century on lands which had emerged from the sea. This forest, one of the few remaining parts of the vast forest that once covered the northern part of Italy, is now protected as a nature reserve.

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Zusammenfassung

In den Wäldern von Mesola (Ferrara, Italien) wurde *Flaviporus semisupiniformis* (Murr.) Ginns gefunden, ein Porling, der bis anhin lediglich aus Mexiko bekannt war. Der italienische Fund wird beschrieben und mit dem Typus verglichen.

Résumé

On a trouvé dans les forêts de Mesola (Ferrare, Italie) *Flaviporus semisupiniformis* (Murr.) Ginns, un Polypore qui n'était connu jusqu'ici qu'au Mexique. Les carpophores trouvés en Italie sont décrits et comparés à l'espèce type.

Riassunto

Nel bosco della Mesola (Ferrara, Italia) è stato trovato *Flaviporus semisupiniformis* (Murr.) Ginns, un poliporo che finora era conosciuto soltanto dal Messico. Viene descritto il ritrovamento italiano e si fa pure un confronto con il tipo.