

# Diversity of Corticioid Agaricomycetes in the Himalaya

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**Abstract** Agaricomycetes is a class in phylum Basidiomycota and subphylum Agaricomycotina. The corticioid members are generally lignicolous having unilateral and gymnocarpic hymenium. The present study on these fungi is an outcome of more than 35 years of extensive work carried out in the Eastern and the North Western Himalaya, which stretch over a distance of about 2500 km from west to east, with 100-400 km average width along the entire longitudinal extension and lot of variation in altitude gradients. Macroscopic and microscopic observations of more than 4000 collections, using standard techniques, have revealed identification of more than 300 taxa belonging to more than 100 genera of the different families and orders of class Agaricomycetes. These include 6 genera (*Chordochaete*, *Dendrophlebia*, *Hallenbergia*, *Radulopsis*, *Repetobasidiopsis* and *Trimitiella*), 2 sub genera (*Stereum* subgen. *Acanthostereum*, *Stereum* subgen. *Aculeatostereum*), as many 45 species (*Aleurodiscus himalaicus*, *A. indicus*, *Athelopsis parvispora*, *Candelabrochaete himalayana*, *Ceraceomyces bizonatus*, *Clavulicium hallenbergii*, *Conohypha grandispora*, *Cristinia tubulicystidiata*, *Dendrophlebia crassispora*, *Flavophlebia sphaerospora*, *Fibulomyces cystoideus*, *Hallenbergia singularisa*, *Hyphoderma bicytidiata*, *H. densustextum*, *H. parvisporum*, *H. sikkimia*, *H. sporulus*, *H. subglobosum*, *Hyphodontia caulicystidiata*, *H. dhingrii*, *Leucogyrophana thimphina*, *Paullicorticium indicum*, *Peniophora hallenbergii*, *Phlebia craasisubiculata* *P. interjacenoides*, *P. microspora*, *P. kamengii*, *P. singularisa*, *P. thindii*, *Phlebiopsis darjeelingensis*, *P. himalayensis*, *P. mussooriensis*, *Radulodon indicus*, *R. acaciae*, *Radulopsis cystidiata*, *Repetobasidiopsis macrospora*, *Scytinostroma pulverulentum*, *Sistotremastrum roseum*, *Stereum peculiare*, *Sistotrema angustispora*, *Tomentella kalatopii*, *T. unicus*, *Trimitiella indica*, *Vararia longicystidiata*) and 8 varieties (*Amphinema byssoides* var. *macrospores*, *Botryobasidium subcoronatum* var. *crassispora*, *Ceraceomyces sublaevis* var. *grandisporus*, *Conohypha albocremaea* var. *angustisporum*, *Hyphoderma roseocremaea* var. *minutisporum*, *H. setigerum* var. *bicytidium*, *Tomentella cladii* var. *grandii*, *Tubulicium vermifer* var. *hexasterigmatum*) new to science and more than 160 first reports from the Himalaya.