



November 2013

Heliomyces Notebook 1

L. R. Hesler

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Recommended Citation

Hesler, L. R., "Heliomyces Notebook 1" (2013). *L. R. Hesler's Mushroom Notebooks*.
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HELIOMYCES DECOLORANS B. & C.

Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. III:4:295. 1859

Pileus 1-3 cm., pure white, convex, then expanded, margin finally upturned, slightly umbonate, diaphanous, pliant, sulcate, concentrically rugulose, pruinose-micaceous, reviving. Flesh thin; odor slight; taste farinaceous then peppery. Lamellae adnate-decurrent, seceding and becoming adnexed or emarginate-uncinate, medium broad, ventricose, sub-distant, venose at cap, edges ciliate. Stipe 1.5-4 cm. x 2-3 mm., white, shining, minutely-fibrillose, slightly expanded upward, more or less attenuated at base, curved, dry, hollow, at times with a stout, white rhizomorph.

Spores 10-¹⁸~~13~~ x 4-⁵~~4.5~~ μ , oblong-lanceolate, smooth, white in mass, non-amyloid. Pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia abundant, conspicuous, similar, colorless, irregularly sub-ventricose-cylindrical, 80-100 x 7-8 μ (base 12-16 μ). Epicutis of irregularly disposed semi-erect hyphae. Stipe hollow; not differentiated into rind and cortex as in all other Marasmii which I have studied. Rind and cortex of irregular cells, all non-amyloid.

Habitat and Distribution. - On humus, in deciduous woods, Tennessee, July.

Discussion. - Smith (letter, November 27, 1943) says "near candidus. However, it may be a Heliomyces. It is

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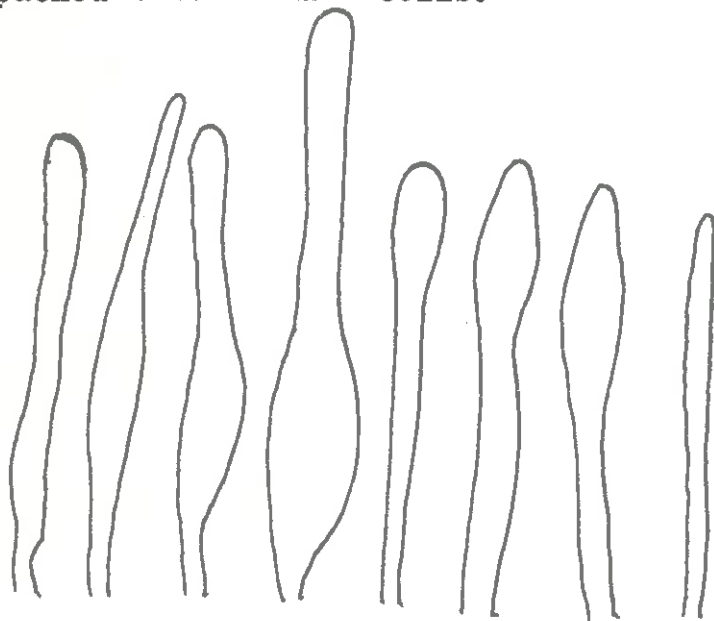
very interesting. When you get it again, dry it very carefully. I suspect that the change in drying is characteristic, however." The stipe structure suggests this may not be a Marasmius.

Habitat and Distribution. - On fallen branches and leaves, in deciduous woods, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, July-September.

Notes on Biloxi, Mississippi, Collection (Not the Type)

(Coll. E. S. Earle, September 3, 1904)

Spores 9-13 x 3-4.5 μ , cylindric-pip-shaped or oblong-lanceolate, smooth, yellowish-brown in Melzer's reagent, not abundant. Pleurocystidia conspicuous, clavate, ventricose, 40-85 x 6-8 μ (apex) x 9-12 μ (base); cheilocystidia similar or cylindric, shorter. Gill-trama subparallel. Stipe hollow, rind not differentiated, cortex of closely-packed thick-walled cells.



Pl. + ch. (from Earle's coll.)

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22640 - *Heliomycetes decolorans* B. + C.

(Same as No. 15787)