PSATHYRELLA BEROLINENSIS, A REMARKABLE FUNGUS
ON DUNG OF WILD BOAR

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Abstract: An unusual collection, probably the first in Italy, on a more and more frequent substrate ñ the dung of wild boar ñ is here presented. Based on our material, the rare Psathyrella is fully described, its taxonomic position, discussed and the new section Setulopsathyra, proposed.

Riassunto: Nel presente lavoro viene discusso un insolito ritrovamento, probabilmente il primo in Italia, di una rara Psathyrella fmicola legata ad un substrato sempre più frequente nei nostri boschi: lo sterco di cinghiale. Oltre ad una dettagliata descrizione, basata sul nostro materiale, viene analizzata la posizione tassonomica della specie e proposta la nuova sezione Setulopsathyra.

PREFACE

During a mycological conference in 2003 on Mount Amiata, Tuscany in 2003 (Salerni & Perini, 2005), we collected a dropping of wild boar, almost entirely occupied by a tiny, black-spored agaric. It appeared to belong to Psathyrella berolinensis, a little-known species, originally described by Gerhardt (1978) from Berlin (hence the name) on the same substrate. In the monumental work by Doveri (2004) on fimicolous fungi in Italy the existence of this species was only briefly mentioned. Apparently the species has not been previously collected in this country.

On the basis of our material, we present a full description of P. berolinensis and a discussion about its taxonomic position. The number of measured microscopic structures is indicated as e.g. [20/2], meaning 20 measurements taken from 2 carpophores. The colour codes are after Kornerup & Wanscher (1978), abbreviated as K. & W.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION