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Перші знахідки *Botryosphaeria iberica* в Україні

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First finds of *Botryosphaeria iberica* in Ukraine

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Information about the first records of *Botryosphaeria iberica* A.J.L. Phillips, J. Luque & A. Alves from the territory of Ukraine is given. *Frangula alnus* Mill. is specified as a host for this species for the first time. The status of the species within the *Botryosphaeria sarmentorum* species complex is being discussed.

Botryosphaeriaceae Theiss. & P. Syd is a family of ascigerous fungi with quite diverse morphology and frequently cosmopolitan distribution. Most members of the family live on woody hosts and are endophytic fungi, plant pathogens or saprobes. Significant progress in the study of this taxon has become possible due to the widespread use of molecular genetic methods (Crous et al., 2006).

Botryosphaeria iberica A.J.L. Phillips, J. Luque & A. Alves is *Botryosphaeria sarmentorum* species complex representative. Species was described in 2005 on the dead twigs of *Quercus ilex* L. from Spain (Phillips et al., 2005). Later, it was found in other countries on diverse plant substrates. Nowadays, this fungus has worldwide distribution and a wide range of substrates but hasn't been reported so far from the territory of Ukraine and on such substrate as *Frangula alnus* Mill.

Several specimens of *B. iberica* were collected recently by O. Akulov on the branches of *Frangula alnus* from the territory of Natural Reserve «Roztochchia». Another specimen was collected from the dead branches of *Acer campestre* L. from the territory of National Nature Park «Slobozhanskyi». Species identifications were based on the morphological characteristics and molecular analysis of internal transcribed spacer (ITS-region) sequences. The ITS sequence of one of the specimens submitted to GenBank: OK065619. Specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of the Department of Mycology and Plant Resistance, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (CWU Myc) with AB 409-412 and AS 8117 numbers, respectively.

Systematics of the family is not stable (Dissanayake et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2020). Thus, based on the recent data 58 species, including *Botryosphaeria iberica*, were reduced as a possible synonym of *Botryosphaeria sarmentorum* A.J.L. Phillips, J. Luque & A. Alves (Zhang et al., 2020). The authors mentioned, that cluster of species, named as *Botryosphaeria sarmentorum* needed a more complete dataset for establishing species boundaries. The question of the status of this species has not yet been resolved. A number of sources recognize it as a separate species, but some indicate it as one of the branches of a large and heterogeneous *Botryosphaeria sarmentorum* species.

The work was performed under the guidance of Olexander Yu. Akulov, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Mycology and Plant Resistance, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University.