

Camponotus baldaccii Emery (Hymenoptera) parasitized by Laboulbenia camponoti Batra (Ascomycetes) in Turkey

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Summary

L. camponoti is recorded first time in Turkey. The mature individual figured and its distribution in the world is shown in the map.

Introduction

Laboulbeniales are parasitic ascomycetes found mainly on Coleoptera but also on other groups of insects and other arthropods (Thaxter, 1971; Benjamin, 1973). A difficulty for the study of this group of fungus is that both entomological and botanical interests must converge in one or more researchers. Botanists rarely find them (they do not look for insects) and entomologists usually tear them out of the insects they study.

Results

The hosts of *Laboulbenia camponoti* Batra 1963 are, according to present knowledge, ants of the genus *Camponotus* Mayr. In our case the species is *Camponotus (Tanaemyrmex) baldaccii* Emery 1894, a species known from several points in Turkey (Aktaç, 1976 and unpublished records). Some 35 individuals, mature and immature, were found on the head, antennae, thorax, legs and abdomen of a worker collected attending aphids from Erbeyli - Aydın (23. V. 1980) (Fig. 1).

Laboulbeniales do not seem to damage the ants to a great extent: senior author has reported more than 180 individuals of *Rickia wasmanni* Cavara, another Laboulbenial parasitic on ants, in the head of a worker *Myrmica*

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sabuleti Meinert, collected foraging out of the nest, and many more were on the rest of the body.

Laboulbenia camponoti was previously known from the type locality in India (Batra, 1963) and from the Iberian peninsula (Balazuc et al., 1982) (Fig. 2). Its finding in Turkey fits the enormous gap between these two previous records, and undoubtedly will be found elsewhere if properly searched for, specially if we remember that *Camponotus* is the largest and most widespread of all ant genera (Wilson, 1976).

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Özet

Türkiye'de *Camponotus baldaccii* Emery (Hymenoptera)'yi enfekte eden bir Ascomycetes türü : *Laboulbenia camponoti* Batra

Türkiye'de aphid'lerle ortak yaşayan bir karınca türü olan *C. baldaccii*'yi enfekte eden *L. camponoti* isimindeki fungus ilk defa bu makale ile ortaya konmuştur. Bu fungus, şekilde gösterilmiş ve Dünya'da bulunduğu yerler haritada belirtilmiştir. Bu fungus türü ilk defa 1963 yılında Hindistan'da bulunarak tanıtımı yapılmış, daha sonra 1982 yılında İspanya'da da bulunduğu saptanmıştır. Bu bakımdan söz konusu fungusun Türkiye'de bulunuşu, bu iki uzak ülke arasında diğer birçok ülkelerde de bulunması gerektiğini kanıtlaması bakımından büyük önem taşımaktadır.

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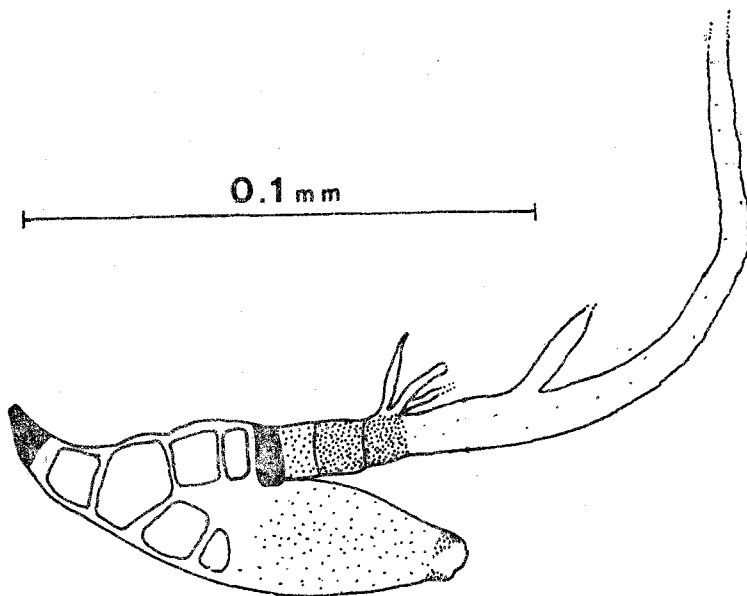


Fig. 1. *Laboulbenia camponoti* Batra mature individual.

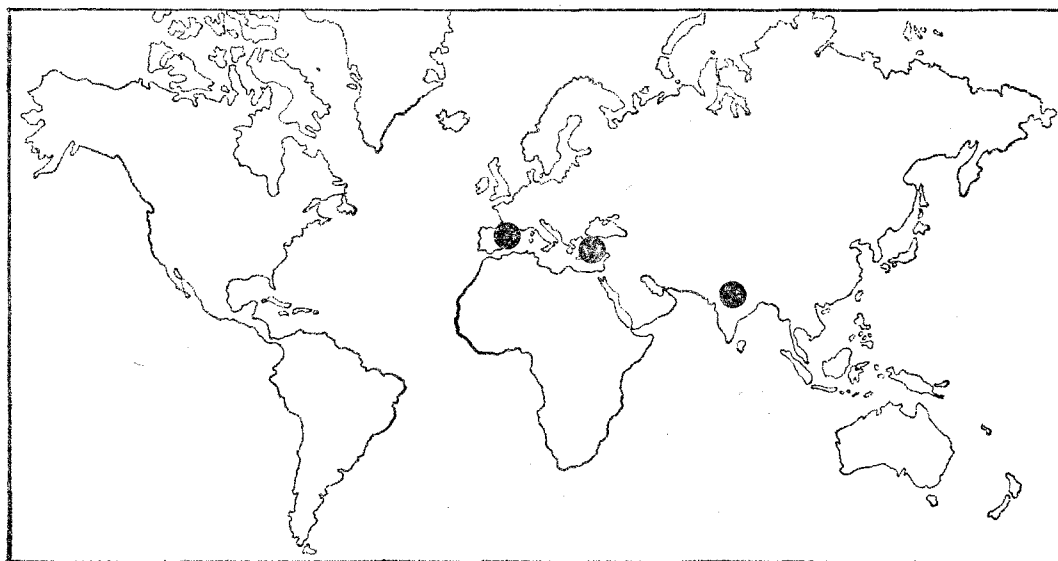


Fig. 2. Known distribution of *Laboulbenia camponoti* Batra.