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## Morphological and molecular identification of two new wood-inhabiting macrofungi (Basidiomycota) from Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau, China

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### Abstract

Two new species of wood-inhabiting fungi viz. *Luteoporia flavula* and *Xylodon subpunctus* are described from the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau in southwestern China. *Luteoporia flavula* is characterized by annual basidiomata with an odontoid and lemon-chrome hymenophore, a monomitic hyphal structure with clamped generative hyphae, subuliform cystidia, and oblong-ellipsoid basidiospores ( $4\text{--}5.2 \times 2.3\text{--}3.2 \mu\text{m}$ ). The phylogenetic analysis based on ITS sequences indicated that *Luteoporia flavula* formed a single lineage and was nested within the genus *Luteoporia*. *Xylodon subpunctus* is characterized by annual basidiomata with a coriaceous and buff hymenophore, a monomitic hyphal structure with clamped generative hyphae, capitate and fusiform cystidia, ellipsoid to ovoid basidiospores measuring  $5.5\text{--}7.2 \times 2.5\text{--}3.6 \mu\text{m}$ . *Xylodon subpunctus* is clustered into the genus *Xylodon*, in the family Schizophoraceae, with *Hyphodontia*, *Lyomyces*, and *Schizophora*. Descriptions, illustrations, and phylogenetic analysis results of two new species are provided.

**Key words:** 2 new species, Diversity, ITS sequence, Macrofungi, Molecular systematics

### Introduction

In fungal taxonomy, the morphology of basidiomata, such as gilled, poroid, toothed, and coraloid, has traditionally served as a fundamental classification criterion (Fries 1874, Sun *et al.* 2022), known for its practical application (Lloyd 1925, Dai & Yuan 2007, Zhao *et al.* 2016, Wu *et al.* 2021, 2022, Chen & Hu 2022, Wang *et al.* 2023, 2024). However, the emergence of molecular systematic research revealed conflicts, revealing that taxa with different basidiomata types were clustered together in the same lineages (Binder & Hibbett 2002, Liu *et al.* 2023). Therefore, the prevailing approach in fungal taxonomy research now emphasizes an integrated consideration of morphology and phylogeny.

*Luteoporia* (2016: 37) F. Wu, Jia J. Chen & S.H. He, was established by Wu *et al.* (2016) with *L. albomarginata* F. Wu, Jia J. Chen & S.H. He as the type species. *Luteoporia* is characterized by the resupinate, ceraceous basidiomata, poroid or odontoid to hydnoid hymenophore featuring a distinctive yellow hymenal surface that turns pink, reddish, or purple when treated with KOH. The genus exhibits a monomitic hyphal system with generative hyphae bearing clamp connections, and hyaline, smooth basidiospores (Wu *et al.* 2016, Liu & Yuan 2020, Zhao *et al.* 2023a). Previously, four species have been recognized in the genus: *L. citriniporia* Z.B. Liu & Yuan Yuan (2020: 36), *L. lutea* (G. Cunn.) C.C. Chen & Sheng H. Wu (2021: 427), *L. albomarginata* F. Wu, Jia J. Chen & S.H. He (2016: 37), and *L. straminea* C.L. Zhao (2023: 19), while *L. citriniporia* is exclusively found in Europe (Liu & Yuan 2020), *L. lutea* occurs in Oceania (Cunningham 1959), and the latter two species were originally described in southwest China (Wu *et al.* 2016, Liu & Yuan 2020).

*Xylodon* (Pers.) Gray (1821: 649), established in 1821, was typified by *X. quercinus* (Pers.) (1821: 649) (Bernicchia & Gorjón 2010), within the order Hymenochaetales. The genus is characterized by resupinate or effuse basidiomata,

a monomitic or a dimitic hyphal system with clamped generative hyphae; different types of cystidia, uniform or subburniform basidia, and cylindrical, ellipsoid to globose basidiospores (Gray 1821, Bernicchia & Gorjón 2010, Cho *et al.* 2021). Initially, species of *Xylodon* exhibited similarities with *Hypnodontia* J. Erikss. (1958: 101), such as odontiod and poroid hymenophores (Larsson *et al.* 2006). Recent phylogenetic analyses of *Xylodon* have revealed that this genus comprises many species exhibiting such both hymenophores (Hjortstam & Ryvarden 2009, Yurchenko *et al.* 2024). The genus *Xylodon* is distributed across various habitats worldwide, spanning the temperate, tropical, and subtropical regions (Langer 1994, Riebesehl *et al.* 2019; Zhao *et al.* 2024). A number of *Xylodon* species have been reported in China (Cho *et al.* 2021, Qu *et al.* 2022, Qu & Zhao 2022, Yurchenko *et al.* 2024, Zhang *et al.* 2024).

Two distinct fungi samples were collected during a survey of the wood-inhabiting fungi in the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau of China. Morphological and phylogenetic analyses conducted in this study revealed that these two species are distinct from all the known species of wood-inhabiting macrofungi and are introduced as *Luteoporia flavula* sp. nov. and *Xylodon subpunctus* sp. nov.

## Material and methods

### Morphological studies

Samples were collected from the Guizhou Province of China, and important collection information was recorded (Rathnayaka *et al.* 2024). Specimens were dried in an electric food dehydrator at 35 °C (Hu *et al.* 2022), and then deposited in the herbarium of the Southwest Forestry University (SWFC), Kunming, Yunnan Province, China. The macro-morphology was based on fresh and dried specimens. The colour terms in the description followed Anonymous (1969) and Petersen (1996). Micro-morphology was studied at magnifications 1000 ×, using a Nikon Eclipse 80i microscope with phase contrast illumination. The Melzer's reagent, Cotton Blue, and 5% KOH were used in the study. Drawings were made with the aid of a drawing tube. In the text these abbreviations were used: IKI = Melzer's reagent, IKI- = non-dextrinoid and non-amylloid, IKI+ = amyloid, KOH = 5% potassium hydroxide, CB = Cotton Blue, CB- = acyanophilous, L = mean basidiospores length (arithmetic average of all basidiospores), W = mean basidiospores width (arithmetic average of all basidiospores), Q = variation in the L/W ratios between the specimens studied, n = number of basidiospores measured from number of specimens.

### DNA Extraction, Polymerase Chain Reaction, and Sequencing

Genomic DNA was extracted from dried basidiomata using a cetyltrimethylammonium bromide rapid plant genome extraction kit (Aidlab Biotechnologies Co., Ltd., Beijing) according to the manufacturer's instructions with some modifications (Dai *et al.* 2010, Zhao *et al.* 2023a). ITS sequences were analyzed to determine the taxonomic status of *Luteoporia* and *Xylodon*. PCR was performed following Zhou *et al.* (2023). All newly generated sequences were deposited in the GenBank database. All the sequence information is listed in Table 1.

### Phylogenetic Analyses

We compiled two ITS sequence data sets to determine the phylogeny: *Meripilus giganteus* (Pers.) P. Karst. (1882: 33) and *Corticium roseum* Pers. (1794: 111) were used as outgroups for *Luteoporia* and *Xylodon* analyses, respectively. The sequences were initially aligned using MAFFT (<https://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/server/>) using the "G-INS-I" strategy and then manually optimized in BioEdit (Hall 1999). ModelFinder (Kalyaanamoorthy *et al.* 2017) was used to select the best-fit model using the AIC criterion. The best-fit model was selected according to AIC: GTR+I+G4.

ML analysis was conducted through the Cipres Science Gateway (<https://www.phylo.org/portal2/login!input.action>). BI was performed using MrBayes (Ronquist & Hulsenbeck 2003) with two independent runs, performing 2,000,000 and 9,000,000 replicates each for the concatenated respectively and the ITS datasets, sampling one tree every 1,000 generations. The first 25% of the sampled trees were discarded as burn-in, and the remaining trees were used to reconstruct a majority rule consensus and calculate the BPP of the clades. Branches of the consensus tree that received bootstrap support for ML greater than or equal to 75%, bayesian posterior probabilities more than 0.95, respectively.

**TABLE 1** Names, voucher numbers, and corresponding GenBank accession numbers of the taxa used in the phylogenetic analysis of this study.

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Climacodon septentrionalis</i>	AFTOL-767	AY854082
<i>Climacodon septentrionalis</i>	FP-72067	KP135345
<i>Corticium roseum</i>	CBS 104.52	MH856944
<i>Crustodontia chrysocreas</i>	HHB-6333-sp	KP135358
<i>Crustodontia nigrodontea</i>	CLZhao 2729	MT896823
<i>Fasciodontia brasiliensis</i>	MSK-F 7245a	MK575201
<i>Fasciodontia bugellensis</i>	KAS-FD 10705a	MK575203
<i>Geesterania carneola</i>	MCW 388/12	KY174999
<i>Geesterania carneola</i>	SP 446193	NR 158508
<i>Hydnophlebia acanthocystis</i>	FP 150571	KY948767
<i>Hydnophlebia canariensis</i>	MA-Fungi 86619	KF483009
<i>Hydnophlebia caspica</i>	CUG 3159	HQ153410
<i>Hydnophlebia chrysorhiza</i>	FD-282	KP135338
<i>Hydnophlebia fimbriata</i>	Dai 11672	KJ698633
<i>Hydnophlebia fissurata</i>	CLZhao 2900	MW732402
<i>Hydnophlebia gorgonea</i>	MA-Fungi 86642	KF483031
<i>Hydnophlebia omnivora</i>	KKN-112-sp	KP135334
<i>Hyphodontia alutaria</i>	GEL 3183	DQ340318
<i>Hyphodontia arguta</i>	KHL 11938	EU118632
<i>Hyphodontia pachyspora</i>	LWZ 20170908-5	MT319426
<i>Hyphodontia pallidula</i>	KAS-GEL 2097	DQ340317
<i>Hyphodontia zhixiangii</i>	LWZ 20180903-5	MT319423
<i>Kneiffiella barba-jovis</i>	KHL 11730	DQ873609
<i>Kneiffiella barba-jovis</i>	KHL 11730	DQ873609
<i>Kneiffiella eucalypticola</i>	LWZ 20180515-9	MT319411
<i>Kneiffiella palmae</i>	KAS-GEL 3456	DQ340333
<i>Kneiffiella subalutacea</i>	GEL 2196	DQ340341
<i>Luteochaete subglobosa</i>	CLZhao 3475	MK881897

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Luteochaete subglobosa</i>	Wu 870918	MZ636996
<i>Luteoporia albomarginata</i>	Dai 15229	KU598873
<i>Luteoporia albomarginata</i>	GC 1702-1	LC379003
<i>Luteoporia citriniporia</i>	Dai 19507	MT872218
<i>Luteoporia flavum</i>	CLZhao 31241	OR681873
<i>Luteoporia flavum</i>	CLZhao 31243	OR681874
<i>Luteoporia flavum</i>	CLZhao 31245	OR681875
<i>Luteoporia lutea</i>	GC 1409-1	MZ636998
<i>Luteoporia straminea</i>	CLZhao 18947	MW732407
<i>Luteoporia straminea</i>	CLZhao 5794	OM897115
<i>Lyomyces bambusinus</i>	CLZhao 4831	MN945968
<i>Lyomyces fimbriatus</i>	Wu 911204-4	MK575210
<i>Lyomyces mascarensis</i>	KAS-GEL 4833	NG_060351
<i>Lyomyces orientalis</i>	LWZ 20170909-7	MT326529
<i>Lyomyces sambuci</i>	KAS-JR7	KY800402
<i>Meripilus giganteus</i>	FP 135344 Sp	KP135307
<i>Merulius fuscotuberculata</i>	CLZhao 10227	MT020759
<i>Merulius hydnoides</i>	HHB-1993-sp	KY948778
<i>Merulius livida</i>	FBCC 1283	LN611123
<i>Merulius nantahaliensis</i>	HHB-2816-sp	KY948777
<i>Merulius sinensis</i>	CLZhao 2562	MW732401
<i>Merulius tomentopileata</i>	CLZhao 10274	MT020771
<i>Merulius tremellosus</i>	CBS 217.56	MH857589
<i>Mycoacia aurea</i>	FCUG 2767	HQ153409
<i>Mycoacia aurea</i>	RLG 5075sp	KY948759
<i>Mycoacia fuscoatra</i>	HHB-10782-sp	KP135365
<i>Mycoacia fuscoatra</i>	OMC 1380	KY948754
<i>Mycoacia gilvescens</i>	Chen 3340	MZ636936

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Mycoacia gilvescens</i>	Yuan 2752	KF845953
<i>Mycoacia gilvescens</i>	Chen 156	MZ636935
<i>Mycoacia gilvescens</i>	BRNM 710166	FJ496684
<i>Mycoacia kunmingensis</i>	CLZhao 153	KX081073
<i>Mycoacia kunmingensis</i>	CLZhao 152	KX081072
<i>Mycoacia livida</i>	FP-135416-sp	KP135309
<i>Mycoacia nothofagi</i>	HHB-4273-sp	KP135369
<i>Mycoacia nothofagi</i>	HHB-6906-sp	KP135368
<i>Mycoacia subfascicularis</i>	Chen 3873	MZ637007
<i>Mycoacia subfascicularis</i>	Wu 1004	MZ637008
<i>Mycoacia tuberculata</i>	MG 128	HQ153425
<i>Mycoacia tuberculata</i>	FCUG 3186	HQ153418
<i>Mycoaciella bispora</i>	EL 1399	AY463446
<i>Mycoaciella brunneospina</i>	CLZhao 15876	MW732404
<i>Pappia fssilis</i>	BRNM 699803	HQ728292
<i>Phlebia acerina</i>	FD-301	KP135378
<i>Phlebia floridensis</i>	HHB-9905-sp	KP135383
<i>Phlebia griseoflavescens</i>	MR-4310	KY948797
<i>Phlebia leptospermi</i>	CBS 126031	MH863894
<i>Phlebia ochraceofulva</i>	FBCC 360	LN611117
<i>Phlebia radiata</i>	CBS 285.56	MH857642
<i>Phlebia rhododendri</i>	CLZhao 6168	MW732400
<i>Phlebia rufa</i>	CBS 213.47	MH856224
<i>Phlebicolorata alboaurantia</i>	Cui 4136	KF845955
<i>Phlebicolorata brevispora</i>	FBCC 1463	LN611135
<i>Phlebicolorata crocea</i>	Miettinen 16483	KY948745
<i>Phlebicolorata pseudoplacenta</i>	Miettinen 18997	KY948744

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Phlebicolorata rosea</i>	Dai 13573	KJ698635
<i>Phlebiporia bubalina</i>	Dai 9798	KY131842
<i>Pseudophlebia mayanensis</i>	JV 1504/128	KT156706
<i>Pseudophlebia semisupina</i>	Cui 10222	KF845956
<i>Pseudophlebia setulosa</i>	HHB-6891-sp	KP135382
<i>Sarcodontia crocea</i>	OMC 1488	KY948798
<i>Sarcodontia crocea</i>	BRNM 721609	KX831470
<i>Scopuloides allantoidea</i>	GC 1602-11	MZ637080
<i>Scopuloides dimorpha</i>	FP-102935	KP135353
<i>Scopuloides hydnoides</i>	FP-150473	KP135355
<i>Scopuloides rimosa</i>	HHB-7042-sp	KP135350
<i>Xylodon acuminatus</i>	Larsson 16029	ON197552
<i>Xylodon acystidiatus</i>	LWZ 20180514-9	MT319474
<i>Xylodon afromontanus</i>	H 7006811	OQ645463
<i>Xylodon angustisporus</i>	Ryvarden 50691b	OK273831
<i>Xylodon apacheriensis</i>	Canfield 180	KY081800
<i>Xylodon asiaticus</i>	CLZhao 10368	OM959479
<i>Xylodon asperus</i>	Spirin 11923	OK273838
<i>Xylodon astrocystidiatus</i>	TMN F24764	NR154054
<i>Xylodon attenuatus</i>	Spirin 8775	MH324476
<i>Xylodon australis</i>	LWZ 20180509-8	MT319503
<i>Xylodon bambusinus</i>	CLZhao 11310	MW394660
<i>Xylodon borealis</i>	JS26064	AY463429
<i>Xylodon brevisetus</i>	JS17863	AY463428
<i>Xylodon crystalliger</i>	KUN 2312	NR166242
<i>Xylodon cymosus</i>	Miettinen 19606	ON197554
<i>Xylodon cystidiatus</i>	FR-0249200	MH880195
<i>Xylodon damansaraensis</i>	LWZ 20180417-23	MT319499

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Xylodon daweishanensis</i>	CLZhao 18357	OP730715
<i>Xylodon detriticus</i>	Zíbarová 30.10.17	MH320793
<i>Xylodon dissiliens</i>	Ryyarden 44817	OK273856
<i>Xylodon echinatus</i>	H 7200350	OQ645464
<i>Xylodon filicinus</i>	MSK F 12869	MH880199
<i>Xylodon fissuratus</i>	CLZhao 9407	OP730714
<i>Xylodon flaviger</i>	FR-0249797	MH880201
<i>Xylodon flocculosus</i>	CLZhao 18342	MW980776
<i>Xylodon follis</i>	FR-0249814	MH880204
<i>Xylodon gloeocystidiifer</i>	BLS M-5232	OQ645467
<i>Xylodon gossypinus</i>	CLZhao 8375	MZ663804
<i>Xylodon grandineus</i>	CLZhao 6425	OM338090
<i>Xylodon hastifer</i>	K (M) 172400	NR166558
<i>Xylodon heterocystidiatus</i>	Wei 17-314	MT731753
<i>Xylodon hjortstamii</i>	Gorjón 3187	ON188816
<i>Xylodon hyphodontinus</i>	KAS-GEL9222	MH880205
<i>Xylodon jacobaeus</i>	MA-Fungi91340	MH430073
<i>Xylodon kunmingensis</i>	TUB-FO 42565	MH880198
<i>Xylodon laceratus</i>	CLZhao 9892	OL619258
<i>Xylodon lagenicystidiatus</i>	LWZ20180513-16	MT319634
<i>Xylodon lanatus</i>	CFMR FP-101864-A	OQ645474
<i>Xylodon lenis</i>	Wu 890714-3	KY081802
<i>Xylodon macrosporus</i>	CLZhao 10226	MZ663809
<i>Xylodon magallanesii</i>	MA-Fungi 90397	MT158729
<i>Xylodon mantiqueirensis</i>	SP467059	OQ645478
<i>Xylodon mollissimus</i>	LWZ 20160318-3	KY007517
<i>Xylodon montanus</i>	CLZhao 8179	OL619260
<i>Xylodon neotropicus</i>	SP 467096	OQ645479

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Xylodon nesporii</i>	LWZ 20180921-35	MT319655
<i>Xylodon niemelaei</i>	LWZ 20150707-13	MT319630
<i>Xylodon nongravis</i>	GC 1412-22	KX857801
<i>Xylodon nothofagi</i>	ICMP 13842	AF145583
<i>Xylodon ovisporus</i>	LWZ 20170815-31	MT319666
<i>Xylodon papillosum</i>	CBS 114.71	MH860026
<i>Xylodon paradoxus</i>	Dai 14983	MT319519
<i>Xylodon patagonicus</i>	ICMP 13832	AF145581
<i>Xylodon pruiniosus</i>	Spirin 2877	MH332700
<i>Xylodon pruniaceus</i>	Ryvarden 11251	OK273828
<i>Xylodon pseudolanatus</i>	FP-150922	MH880220
<i>Xylodon pseudotropicus</i>	Dai 10768	KF917543
<i>Xylodon puerensis</i>	CLZhao 8142	OP730720
<i>Xylodon punctus</i>	CLZhao 17908	OM338093
<i>Xylodon punctus</i>	CLZhao 17691	OM338092
<i>Xylodon punctus</i>	CLZhao 17908	OM338093
<i>Xylodon punctus</i>	CLZhao 17916	OM338094
<i>Xylodon quercinus</i>	Spirin 12030	OK273841
<i>Xylodon raduloides</i>	FCUG 2433	AF145570
<i>Xylodon ramicida</i>	Spirin 7664	NR138013
<i>Xylodon reticulatus</i>	GC 1512.1	KX857808
<i>Xylodon reticulatus</i>	Wu 1109-178	KX857805
<i>Xylodon reticulatus</i>	GC 1512.1	KX857808
<i>Xylodon rhizomorphus</i>	Dai 12367	NR_154067
<i>Xylodon rhododendricola</i>	LWZ 20180513-9	MT319621
<i>Xylodon rimosissimus</i>	Ryberg 21031	DQ873627
<i>Xylodon serpentiformis</i>	LWZ 20170816-15	MT319673
<i>Xylodon sinensis</i>	CLZhao 9197	MZ663810

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**TABLE 1** (Continued)

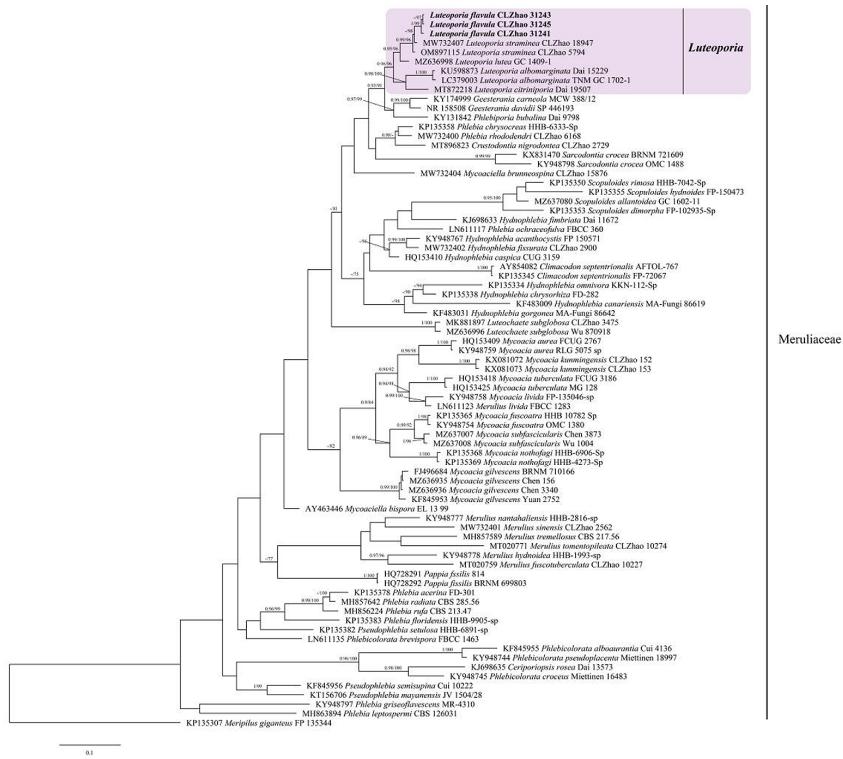
Species name	Species voucher	ITS
<i>Xylodon sinensis</i>	CLZhao 11120	OK560885
<i>Xylodon spathulatus</i>	LWZ 20180804-10	MT319646
<i>Xylodon subclavatus</i>	TUB-FO 42167	MH880232
<i>Xylodon subflaviporus</i>	TNM F29958	NR184880
<i>Xylodon submucronatus</i>	Renvall 1602	OK273830
<i>Xylodon subpunctus</i>	CLZhao 6165	PP537958
<i>Xylodon subpunctus</i>	CLZhao 31242	PP537957
<i>Xylodon subserpentiformis</i>	LWZ 20180512-16	MT319486
<i>Xylodon subtilissimus</i>	Spirin 12228	ON188818
<i>Xylodon subtropicus</i>	LWZ 20180510-24	MT319541
<i>Xylodon taiwanianus</i>	CBS 125875	MH864080
<i>Xylodon tropicus</i>	CLZhao 3351	OL619261
<i>Xylodon ussuriensis</i>	KUN 1989	NR166241
<i>Xylodon verecundus</i>	KHL 12261	DQ873642
<i>Xylodon victoriensis</i>	LWZ 20180510-29	MT319487
<i>Xylodon wenshanensis</i>	CLZhao 15729	OM338097
<i>Xylodon xinpingensis</i>	CLZhao 9147	MW394657
<i>Xylodon yarraensis</i>	LWZ 20180510-5	MT319639
<i>Xylodon yunnanensis</i>	LWZ 20180922-47	MT319660

## Results

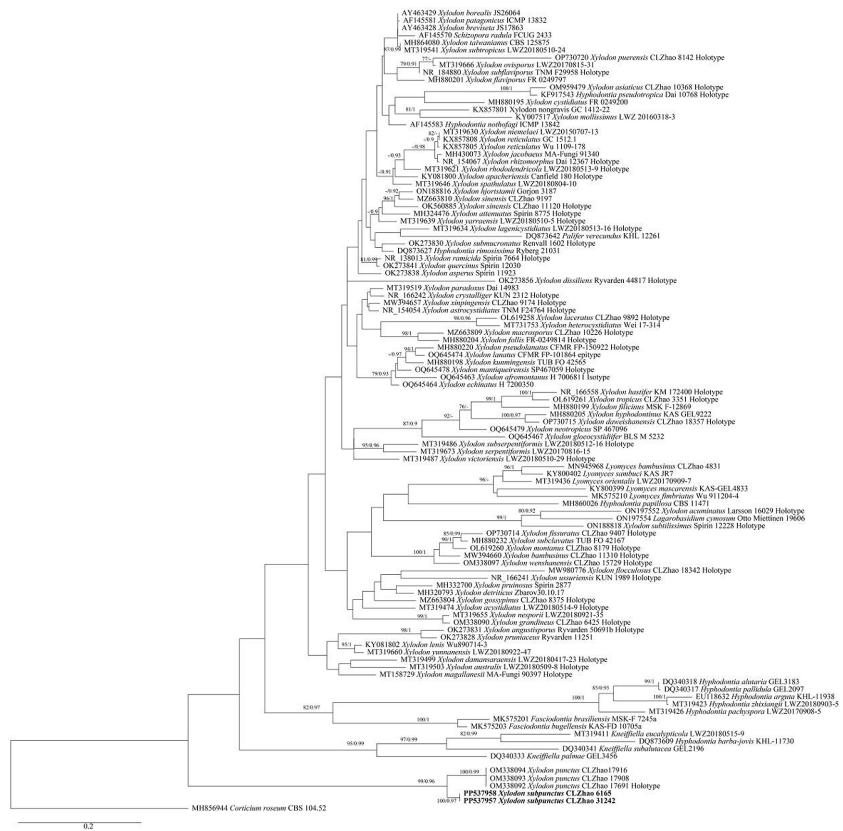
The combined ITS dataset of *Luteoporia* included sequences from 77 specimens (Table 1). The dataset had an aligned length of 944 characters, of which 412 were constant, 132 were variable but parsimony uninformative, and 400 were parsimony informative. Bayesian and ML analyses resulted in a similar topology, with an average standard deviation of split frequencies of 0.008741 (BI).

The combined ITS dataset of *Xylodon* included sequences from 108 specimens (Table 1). The dataset had an aligned length of 875 characters, of which 346 were constant, 108 were variable but parsimony uninformative, and 421 were parsimony-informative. Bayesian analysis and ML analysis resulted in a similar topology.

The phylogeny (Fig. 1) inferred from ITS sequences demonstrated 58 species. The new species *Luteoporia flavula* clusters in the family Meruliaceae clade and groups with *Geesterania* Westphalen (2018: 134) and *Phlebiopia* Jia J. Chen, B.K. Cui & Y.C. Dai (2014: 568). In the phylogenetic trees, the species of *Luteoporia* cluster together with a high support value (0.96/96). The new species, *L. flavula* forms a sister group to the other two species, *L. lutea* and *L. straminea*, with the same morphological characteristics of the odontoid hymenophore, while the two species, *L. albomarginata* and *L. citriniporia* with the poroid hymenophore receive strong support (Fig. 1).



**FIGURE 1.** Phylogeny of *Luteoporia flavula* (in bold) and related species by ML analysis based on combined ITS rDNA sequences. Branches are labeled with maximum likelihood bootstrap equal to or higher than 75%, and Bayesian posterior probabilities equal to or higher than 0.95, respectively.



**FIGURE 2.** Phylogeny of *Xyloodon subpunctus* (in bold) and related species by ML analysis based on combined ITS rDNA sequences. Branches are labeled with maximum likelihood bootstrap equal to or higher than 75%, and Bayesian posterior probabilities equal to or higher than 0.95, respectively.

The phylogeny (Fig. 2) inferred from ITS sequences demonstrates 105 species. The new species *Xylodon subpunctus* clusters in the family Schizophoraceae clade, groups with *Schizophora* Velen., *Hyphodontia*, and *Lyomyces* P. Karst. In the phylogenetical tree, the new species *X. subpunctus* forms a sister group with *X. punctus* K.Y. Luo & C.L. Zhao (2022: 9) outside the core *Xylodon* clade.

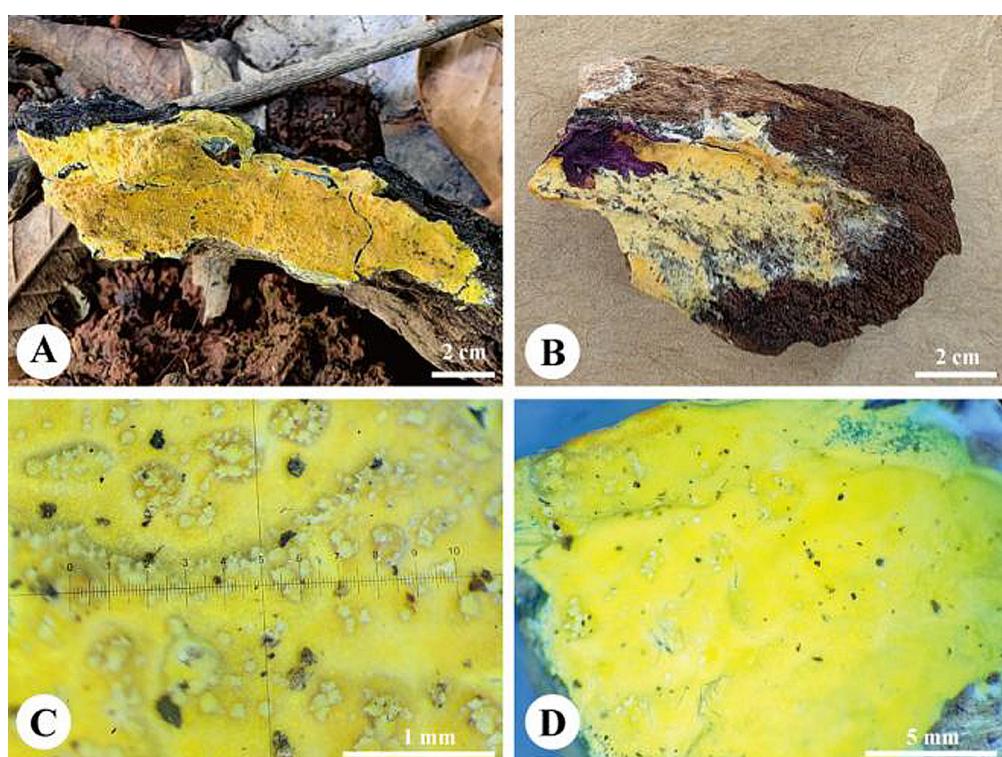
## Taxonomy

***Luteoporia flavula*** C.L. Zhao & H.M. Zhou, sp. nov. Figs. 3, 4.  
MycoBank: MB 850569

**Diagnosis:**—It is characterized by the purple tissue in KOH, in contrast to the reddish colouration of *L. straminea*.

**Etymology:**—*Flavula* (Lat.) refers to the lemon-chrome hymenial surface when fresh.

**Holotype:**—CHINA. Guizhou Province, Guiyang, Qianlingshan Forest Park, on an angiosperm trunk, 25 August 2023, CLZhao 31245 (SWFC F0031245).

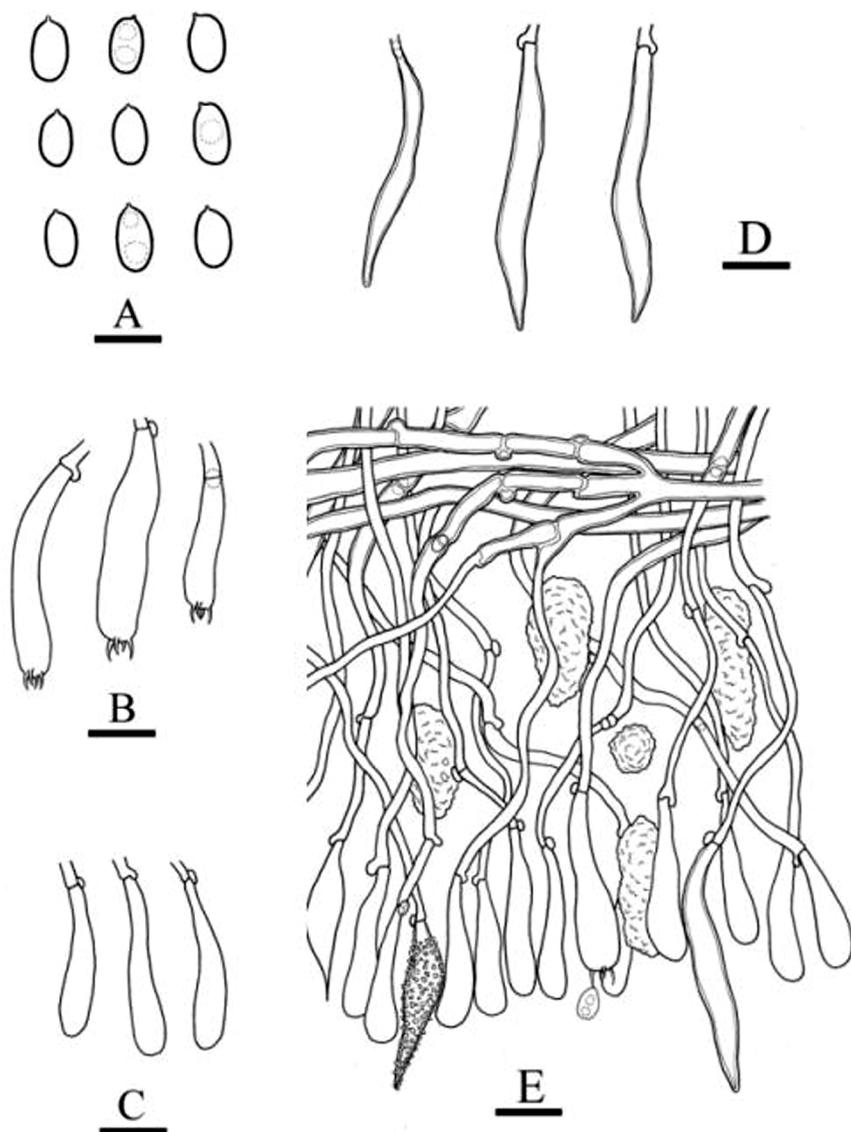


**FIGURE 3.** Basidiomata of *Luteoporia flavula* (A, C) CLZhao 31245; (B, D) CLZhao 31241.

**Basidiomata:**—Annual, resupinate, ceraceous, without odor or taste when fresh, becoming hard upon drying, up to 1 cm long, 1.2 cm wide, 200–250 µm thick when dry. Hymenophore odontoid, lemon-chrome when fresh, curry-yellow upon drying, tissue becoming purple in KOH. Sterile margin, narrow, and light lemon.

**Hyphal structure:**—Monomitic, generative hyphae with clamp connections, hyaline, thin- to thick-walled, IKI-, CB-. Subicular hyphae unbranched, 2.5–4 µm in diam; subhymenial hyphae unbranched, 2–4 µm in diam; numerous yellow to yellowish brown gelatinous substances present among subhymenium. Hymenial cystidia subuliform, hyaline, thick-walled, 15.5–30 × 3.8–5.7 µm, cystidioles absent; basidia 4-celled, clavate, with a basal clamp connection, 24–29 × 4–5.2 µm. Basidiospores oblong ellipsoid, hyaline, thin-walled, smooth, occasionally with guttules, IKI-, CB-, (3.4)4–5.2(–5.5) × (2.2)–2.3–3.2(–3.4) µm, L = 4.56 µm, W = 2.74 µm, Q = 1.63–1.71 (n = 90/3).

**Additional specimens examined (paratypes):**—CHINA. Guizhou Province, Guiyang, Qianlingshan Forest Park, on an angiosperm trunk, 25 August 2023, CLZhao 31241 (SWFC F0031241), CLZhao 31243 (SWFC F0031243).



**FIGURE 4.** Microscopic structures of *Luteoporia flavula* (CLZhao 31245, holotype). (A) Basidiospores; (B) Basidia; (C) Basidioles; (D) Cystidia; (E) A section of hymenium. Scale bars: A = 5  $\mu\text{m}$ ; B–E = 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

*Xylodon subpunctus* C.L. Zhao & H.M. Zhou, *sp. nov.* Fig. 5.

Mycobank: MB 853205

**Diagnosis:**—It differs from *Xylodon punctus* by smaller basidiospores ( $2–4 \times 1.5–2.5 \mu\text{m}$  vs.  $5.5–7.2 \times 2.5–3.6 \mu\text{m}$ ).

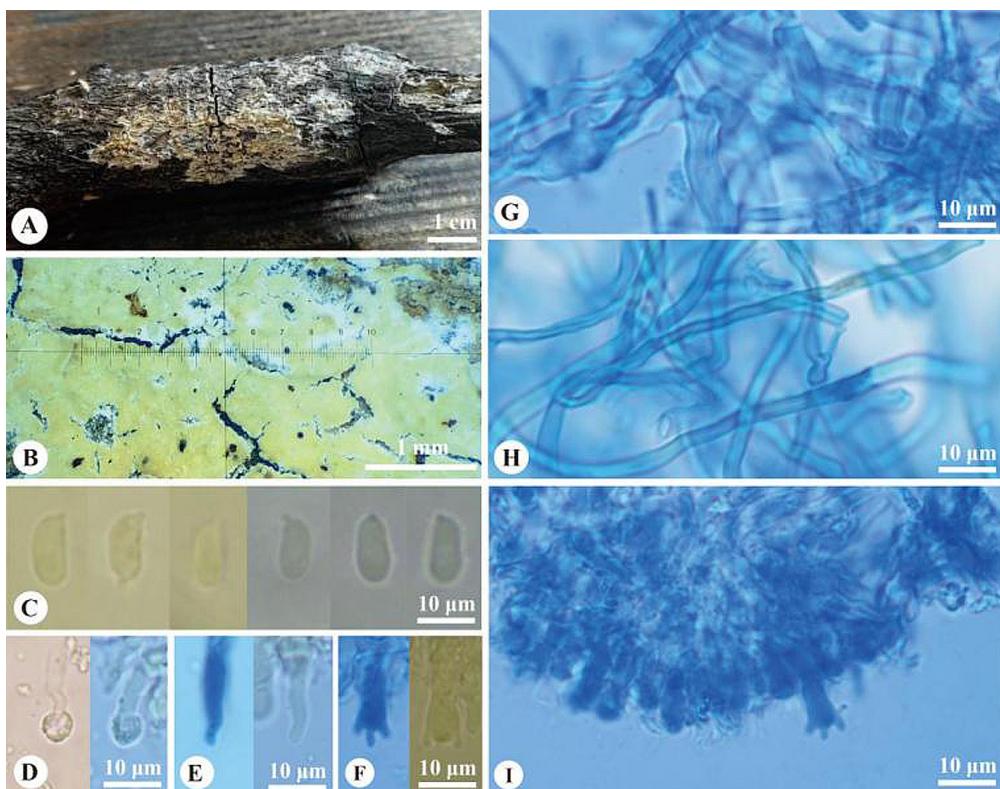
**Etymology:**—*Subpunctus* (Lat.) refers to the similarity of the species to *Xylodon punctus*.

**Holotype:**—CHINA. Guizhou Province, Guiyang, Qianlingshan Forest Park, on a fallen angiosperm branch, 25 August 2023, CLZhao 31242 (SWFC F0031242).

**Basidiomata:**—Basidiomata annual, resupinate, without odor and taste, coriaceous when fresh, hard coriaceous upon drying, up to 4 cm long, 2 cm wide, 20–50  $\mu\text{m}$  thick. Hymenial surface farinaceous, buff when dry, cracking. Sterile margin indistinct.

**Hyphal system:**—Monomitic, generative hyphae with clamp connections, hyaline, thin-walled, frequently branched, interwoven, IKI-, CB-, 1.8–4.4  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter; tissues unchanged in KOH; subhymenial hyphae densely covered by larger, irregular crystals; a basal layer of hyphae regularly arranged.

**Hymenium:**—Cystidia of two types: (1) capitate cystidia occasional, hyaline, thin-walled, slightly constricted at the neck, with a globose tip,  $27–34.2 \times 3–3.5 \mu\text{m}$ ; (2) fusiform cystidia frequent, hyaline, thin-walled,  $20.3–26.8 \times 5.3–6.4 \mu\text{m}$ ; basidia 4-celled, barreled to clavate, with a basal clamp connection,  $10–17.4 \times 2–5.2 \mu\text{m}$ .



**FIGURE 5.** Basidiomata and microscopic structures of *Xylodon subpunctus* (holotype, CLZhao 31242). A–B. Basidiomata; C. Basidiospores; D. Capitate cystidia; E. Cystidia; F. Basidia; G. Subhymenial hyphae; H. Hymenial hyphae; I. A section of hymenium.

**Spores:**—Basidiospores ellipsoid to ovoid, hyaline, thin-walled, smooth, IKI-, CB-, (5.3–)5.5–7.2(–7.4) × (2.6–)2.5–3.6(–4.5) µm, L = 6.33 µm, W = 3.00 µm, Q = 2.08–2.13 (n = 60/2).

**Additional specimen examined (paratype):**—CHINA. Yunnan Province, Puer, Zhenyuan County, Damo Mountain, on a fallen angiosperm branch, 16 January 2018, CLZhao 6165 (SWFC).

## Discussion

The phylogenetic analysis reveals that *Luteoporia* is monophyletic with high support (Fig. 1), which is consistent with previous studies (Wu *et al.* 2016, Liu & Yuan 2020, Chen *et al.* 2021, Zhao *et al.* 2023a). The hymenophores of *L. albomarginata* and *L. citriniporia* are poroid and hydnoid in *L. lutea*, *L. straminea*, and *L. flavula*.

Phylogenetically, *Luteoporia flavula* groups with *L. albomarginata*, *L. citriniporia*, *L. lutea*, and *L. straminea*. Morphologically, *L. albomarginata* and *L. citriniporia* differ from *L. flavula* in their poroid hymenophores. In addition, *L. lutea* is distinguished from *L. flavula* by the longer basidiospores (5–6 µm vs. 4–4.6 µm), shorter basidia (16–24 µm vs. 24–29 µm), and it occurs in New Zealand (Chen *et al.* 2021). *Luteoporia straminea* and *L. flavula* are found in Yunnan Province of China, with a similar yellow, odontiod hymenophore and the same shape and size basidiospores. At the same time, the latter has smaller basidia (17.5–24.1 × 2.7–4.2 µm vs. 24–29 × 4–5.2 µm), and the tissue of *L. straminea* becomes reddish in KOH, but purple in *L. flavula* (Zhao *et al.* 2023a).

*Luteoporia flavula* resembles *Phanerochaetella leptoderma* (Sheng H. Wu) C.C. Chen & Sheng H. Wu (2021: 417) by having similar yellowish and ceraceous basidiomata, but the latter has longer basidiospores (6–7.2 µm vs. 4–5.2 µm, Chen *et al.* 2021).

The phenomenon of taxa with different basidiomata types clustering in the same lineage has been observed in numerous studies: Mucoromycota (Zhao *et al.* 2023b), Auriculariales (Zhou & Dai 2013, Wu *et al.* 2021), Agaricales (Zhang *et al.* 2023), Hymenochaetales (Zhao *et al.* 2014, Chen *et al.* 2016, Guan *et al.* 2020, Wu *et al.* 2022, Zhou *et al.* 2023), Albatrellaceae (Albee-Scott 2007, Smith *et al.* 2013) and Polyporales (Dai 2012, Zhao & Wu 2017, Cui *et al.* 2019, Ma & Zhao 2019, Huan & Zhao 2020, Wang *et al.* 2021, Zhao *et al.* 2021, Mao *et al.* 2023). In our study, species exhibiting poroid or odontiod-to-hydnum hymenophore were grouped within *Luteoporia*, indicating that hymenophore characteristics may not always be consistent with phylogenetic analysis results (Table 2).

*Xylodon* is a widely recognized genus in diverse biomes with abundant woody plant debris worldwide. Recent phylogenies conducted by Luo *et al.* (2022) and Qu *et al.* (2022) expanded our understanding of *Xylodon* and its four related families, comprising six genera. Our novel taxonomic analysis using the ITS dataset revealed that *X. subpunctus* and *X. punctus* are grouped within the same subclade outside the core clade of *Xylodon*. Given the available data, we classified them as *Xylodon* species for the time being, pending further examination and phylogenetic analysis of additional material.

Nineteen species of *Xylodon* have been identified in Yunnan Province (Luo *et al.* 2022, Qu & Zhao 2022, Qu *et al.* 2022, Zhang *et al.* 2024). Among these, *X. subpunctus* shows a closer phylogenetic relationship with *X. punctus*, but *X. punctus* has smaller basidiospores ( $2\text{--}4 \times 1.5\text{--}2.5 \mu\text{m}$  vs.  $5.5\text{--}7.2 \times 2.5\text{--}3.6 \mu\text{m}$ ). Two species, *X. kunmingensis* L.W. Zhou & C.L. Zhao and *X. rhizomorphus* (C.L. Zhao, B.K. Cui & Y.C. Dai) Riebesehl, Yurch. & Langer, are readily confused with *X. subpunctus*. However, *X. kunmingensis* is characterized by the adnate and cream basidiomata (Shi *et al.* 2019); while *X. rhizomorphus* is characterized by rhizomorphic basidiomata with a poroid hymenophore and wider basidiospores ( $3.7\text{--}4.1 \mu\text{m}$  vs.  $2.5\text{--}3.6 \mu\text{m}$ , Zhao *et al.* 2014).

Previously, species in *Luteoporia* and *Xylodon* were reported as saprophytic, and our two new species have the same ecology as the other species in these two genera (Yuan *et al.* 2023). The other functions of the two new species are unknown so far.

The Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau, with its important virgin forests, is a unique and vital habitat for a variety of wood-decaying fungi, including poroid, gilled, clavarioid, and Jelly hymenophore species (Dai 2012; Zhao & Wu 2017, Zhou *et al.* 2023, Wang *et al.* 2024). However, the diversity of corticoid fungi in this region is poorly understood, highlighting the urgent need for further research. Recent discoveries of new species in China, identified through a combination of morphology and phylogeny (Yuan *et al.* 2023, Zhao *et al.* 2023a, Dong *et al.* 2024), underscore the potential for exciting new findings. The application of advanced techniques, such as molecular phylogeny and omics, offers a promising avenue for future research in mycology.

## Author contribution

All authors contributed to the concept and design of the study. ZHM, ZCL, and YX performed material preparation and data collection. ZHM and ZCL performed phylogenetic analysis, and ZHM and WYY did drawings. ZHM and YX wrote the first draft of the manuscript. ZCL commented on previous versions of the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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## Declarations

Those authors declare no competing interests.

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