

Contribution to the Generic Classification of the Rhodochortaceae (Rhodophyta, Nemaliales)

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Abstract

The family names related to acrochaetioid algae are briefly surveyed and Rhodochortaceae Nasr is adopted as the correct name of the family based on the nomenclatural priority. A historical review of several generic classification schemes is presented. A new classification scheme is provided on the basis of asexual reproduction as the primary criterion and the chloroplast morphology as an additional criterion for distinguishing genera of the family. Under the new scheme, *Audouinella* Bory is restricted to taxa producing monosporangia and having parietal laminate or ribbon-shaped chloroplasts, *Acrochaetium* Naegeli to taxa producing monosporangia and having stellate chloroplasts, and *Rhodochorton* Naegeli to taxa having asexual cycles with tetraspores and not monospores.

Introduction

Acrochaetioid algae have the simplest heterotrichous organization among the Florideophyceae. The basal system is composed of a single cell or multicellular filaments. The erect system is of uniaxial, monosiphonous filaments bearing branches. There is no differentiation among any filaments of the erect system although pseudoparenchymatous structures are occasionally constructed among the basal filaments. Chloroplasts are one or several per cell, and stellate, laminate, ribbon-like or discoid in shape. The carpogonium is usually flask-shaped with a terminal or sub-terminal trichogyne. Spermatangia are born in pairs on vegetative cells or in clusters on somewhat specialized branches. The tetrasporangium is generally divided in cruciate mode or unusually in zonate mode (Lee and Kurogi 1983). The monosporangium is common on both gametangial and tetrasporangial plants with the exception of certain taxa. Bisporangia, polysporangia, or parasporangia have been reported (Børgesen 1910, 1937, Howe 1914, Jao 1936, Baardseth 1941, Klavestad 1957). Three main types of life cycles appear in acrochaetioid algae: *Polysiphonia*-type, *Liagora tetrasporifera*-type and *Audouinella rosulata*-type (Garbary *et al.* 1982).

A number of classification schemes have been proposed for the acrochaetioid algae, and there has been much discussion about generic concepts (Hamel 1925, 1927, Drew 1928, Kylin 1944, 1956, Papenfuss 1945, 1947, Woelkerling 1971, 1983, Dixon and Irvine 1977, Garbary 1979, Stegenga 1979, 1985, Lee 1980). Most classification schemes involve criteria associated with sexual reproduction and related characteristics (Rosenvinge 1909, Yamada 1944, Abbott 1962, Feldmann 1962, Woelkerling 1971, 1983, Stegenga and Vroman 1977, Stegenga 1979). Besides sexual reproduction, various characteristics such as basal system, spore germination mode, chloroplast morphology and pyrenoids have been employed in classification (Hamel 1927, Papenfuss 1945, Kylin 1956, Woelkerling 1971, Stegenga 1979). Woelkerling (1971, 1983) and Lee (1980) have discussed several characteristics associated with generic or specific criteria. Dixon and Irvine (1977) and Garbary (1979) believed that there was no logical basis for generic classification in acrochaetioid algae. Thus, there is at present no consensus among phycologists on generic concepts and classification schemes, and a great confusion of binomials for acrochaetioid algae prevails. Such confusion for taxa mentioned in this paper is presented in Table I.

Table I. A list of the binomials of the species mentioned in the text (* basionym)

Species	name	Reference	Note
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>alariae*</i>	Jónsson	1901 p. 132
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>alariae</i>	Bornet	1904 p. 19
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>alariae</i>	Kylin	1944 p. 13
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>alariae</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 320
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>alariae</i>	Woelkerling	1973 b p. 541
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>arcuatum*</i>	Drew	1928 p. 165
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>arcuata</i>	Kylin	1944 p. 13
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>arcuatum</i>	Tseng	1945 p. 158
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>arcuatum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 321
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>arcuata</i>	Garbary <i>et al.</i>	1982 p. 12
<i>Colaconema</i>	<i>bonnemaisoniae*</i>	Batters	1896 p. 8
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>bonnemaisoniae</i>	Levring	1937 p. 94
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>bonnemaisoniae</i>	J. & G. Feldmann	1939 p. 458
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>bonnemaisoniae</i>	Parke & Dixon	1976 p. 590
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>botryocarpum*</i>	Harvey	1854 p. 563
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>botryocarpum</i>	J. Agardh	1892 p. 48
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>botryocarpa</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 37
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>chalybea*</i>	Roth	1806 p. 286
<i>Colaconema</i>	<i>chylocladiae*</i>	Batters	1896 p. 8
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>chylocladiae</i>	Batters	1902 p. 58
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>chylocladiae</i>	Parke & Dixon	1976 p. 590
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>codicola*</i>	Borgesen	1927 p. 33
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>codicola</i>	Nakamura	1944 p. 113
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>codicola</i>	Garbary	1979 p. 490
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>concrescens*</i>	Drew	1928 p. 167
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>concrescens</i>	Parke & Dixon	1976 p. 590
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>dasyae*</i>	Collins	1906 p. 191
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>dasyae</i>	Collins	1911 p. 185
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>dasyae</i>	Parke & Dixon	1076 p. 590
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>daviesii*</i>	Dillwyn	1809 p. 73
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Lyngbye	1819 p. 129
<i>Trentepohlia</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Areschoug	1847 p. 338
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Le Jolis	1863 p. 106
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Naegeli	1861 p. 405
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Drew	1928 p. 172
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>daviesii</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 28
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>dictyotae*</i>	Collins	1906 p. 193
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>dictyotae</i>	Collins	1911 p. 186
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>dictyotae</i>	Drew	1928 p. 190
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>dictyotae</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 38
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>dotyi*</i>	Abbott	1962 p. 89
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>dotyi</i>	Garbary	1979 p. 490
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>efflorescens*</i>	J. Agardh	1851 p. 15
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>	Naegeli	1861 p. 405
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>	Kjellman	1875 p. 14
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>	Drew	1928 p. 151
<i>Grania</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>	Kylin	1944 p. 26
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 326
<i>Liagorophila</i>	<i>endophytica*</i>	Yamada	1944 p. 16
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>yamadae</i>	Garbary	1980 p. 67
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>yamadae</i>	comb. nov.	
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>floridula*</i>	Dillwyn	1809 p. 73
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>floridulum</i>	Lyngbye	1819 p. 130
<i>Thamnidium</i>	<i>floridulum</i>	Le Jolis	1863 p. 111
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>floridulum</i>	Naegeli	1861 p. 358
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>floridulum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 323
<i>Kylima</i>	<i>floridula</i>	Papenfuss	1947 p. 437
<i>Rhodothamniella</i>	<i>floridula</i>	Feldmann	1954 p. 68
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>floridula</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 30
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>juniformis*</i>	Bory	1823 p. 340
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>griffithsianum*</i>	Naegeli	1861 p. 406
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>hermanni*</i>	Roth	1797 p. 164
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>hermanni</i>	Desvaux	1809 p. 310
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>hermanni</i>	Duby	1830 p. 972
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>imitator*</i>	Abbott	1962 p. 104
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>imitator</i>	Garbary	1979 p. 490

cf. Drew 1928

nonacrochaetoid
cf. Papenfuss (1945)

Table I. (continued)

Species	name	Reference	Note
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>immersa</i> *	Rosenvinge	1909 p. 130
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>immersum</i>	Hamel	1927 p. 93
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>immersum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 324
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>immersa</i>	Papenfuss	1947 p. 438
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>investiense</i> *	Kuetzing	1849 p. 431
<i>Balbiana</i>	<i>investiense</i>	Sirodot	1876 p. 146
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>investiense</i>	Kylin	1956 p. 87
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>investiense</i>	Swale & Belcher	1963 p. 281
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>kurogii</i> *	Lee & Lindstrom	1979 p. 115
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>kurogii</i>	Kuiper	1983 p. 139
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>kurogii</i>	comb. nov.	
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>lanuginosum</i> *	Dillwyn	1809 p. 72
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>liagorae</i> *	Bergesen	1915 p. 57
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>liagorae</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 324
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>liagorae</i>	Papenfuss	1947 p. 438
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>liagorae</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 31
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>macropus</i> *	Kylin & Skottsberg	1919 p. 4
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>macropus</i>	De Toni	1924 p. 47
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>macropus</i>	Kylin	1944 p. 13
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>macropus</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 321
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>membranaceum</i> *	Magnus	1874 p. 67
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>membranaceum</i>	Hauck	1885 p. 69
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>membranacea</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 326
<i>Colaconema</i>	<i>membranacea</i>	Woelkerling	1973 b p. 566
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>microscopicum</i> *	Kuetzing	1849 p. 640
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>microscopicum</i>	Naegeli & Cramer	1858 p. 532
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>microscopica</i>	Foslie	1890 p. 54
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>microscopicum</i>	Drew	1928 p. 163
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>microscopica</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 33
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>miniata</i> *	Bory	1823 p. 341
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>pectinata</i> *	Kylin	1906 p. 120
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>pectinatum</i>	Hamel	1927 p. 103
<i>rhodochorton</i>	<i>pectinatum</i>	Rosenvinge	1935 p. 7
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>pectinata</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 326
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>mesocarpum</i>		
	<i>f. peniciliformis</i> *	Kjellman	1883 p. 187
<i>Byssus</i>	<i>purpurea</i> *	Lightfoot	1777 p. 1000
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>purpurea</i>	Dillwyn	1809 p. 56
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>purpureum</i>	Harvey	1841 p. 116
<i>Trentepohlia</i>	<i>purpurea</i>	C. Agardh	1824 p. 36
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>purpureum</i>	Rosenvinge	1900 p. 75
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>purpurea</i>	Woelkerling	1973 b p. 536
<i>Colaconema</i>	<i>reticulatum</i> *	Batters	1896 p. 8
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>reticulatum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 317
<i>Colododictyon</i>	<i>reticulatum</i>	Feldmann	1955 p. 27
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>rhizoideum</i> *	Drew	1928 p. 182
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>rhizoideum</i>	Jao	1937 p. 102
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>rhizoidea</i>	Garbary	1979 p. 490
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>rosulata</i> *	Rosenvinge	1909 p. 141
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>rosulatum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 307
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>rosulata</i>	Parke & Dixon	1976 p. 590
<i>Conferva</i>	<i>rothii</i> *	Turton	1806 p. 1809
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>daviesii</i>		
	<i>β. secundatum</i> *	Lyngbye	1819 p. 129
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>secundatum</i>	Naegeli & Cramer	1858 p. 532
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>secundata</i>	Le Jolis	1863 p. 106
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>secundatum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 323
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>secundata</i>	Papenfuss	1947 p. 437
<i>Colaconema</i>	<i>secundata</i>	Woelkerling	1973 a p. 94
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>secundata</i>	Woelkerling	1973 b p. 575
<i>Thamnidium</i>	<i>spetsbergense</i> *	Kjellman	1875 p. 31
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>spetsbergense</i>	Kjellman	1883 p. 187
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>spetsbergense</i>	Woelkerling	1973 b p. 585
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>subimmersum</i> *	Setchell & Gardner	1903 p. 347
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>subimmersum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 318
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>subimmersa</i>	Garbary & Ruess	1980 p. 22

cf. Woelkerling 1983

see text

cf. Woelkerling 1973 b

nonacrochaetoid

cf. Papenfuss 1945

cf. Woelkerling 1983

Table I. (continued)

Species	name	Reference		Note
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>tenue*</i>	Kylin	1925 p. 44	cf. West 1969
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>tetraspora*</i>	Garbary & Rueness	1980 p. 17	
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>tetrasporum</i>	comb. nov.		
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>efflorescens</i>			
	var. <i>thuretii*</i>	Bornet	1904 p. 22	
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>thuretii</i>	Kylin	1907 p. 119	
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>thuretii</i>	Collins & Harvey	1917 p. 98	
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>thuretii</i>	Drew	1928 p. 152	
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>thuretii</i>	Woelkerling	1971 p. 36	cf. Israelson 1942
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>violacea*</i>	Kuetzing	1845 p. 230	
<i>Callithamnion</i>	<i>virgatulum*</i>	Hooker	1833 p. 349	
<i>Chantransia</i>	<i>virgatula</i>	Le Jolis	1863 p. 106	
<i>Trentepohlia</i>	<i>virgatula</i>	Farlow	1881 p. 109	
<i>Acrochaetium</i>	<i>virgatulum</i>	Bornet	1904 p. XXII	
<i>Rhodochorton</i>	<i>virgatulum</i>	Drew	1928 p. 152	
<i>Chromastrum</i>	<i>virgatulum</i>	Papenfuss	1945 p. 323	
<i>Kylinia</i>	<i>virgatula</i>	Papenfuss	1947 p. 437	
<i>Audouinella</i>	<i>virgatula</i>	Parke & Dixon	1976 p. 532	

The primary objective of this work is to reappraise several generic classification schemes proposed by previous workers and to approach to an effective and natural classification of acrochaetoid algae.

Family Names

Acrochaetoid algae are in general considered to be a well distinguished taxonomic group separate from the other Florideophyceae. In the past, acrochaetoid algae were referred to the Ceramiaceae, the Helminthocladiaceae or the Wrangeliaceae (Naegeli 1861, Rosenvinge 1909, 1923–1924, Hauck 1885, De Toni 1924, Setchell and Gardner 1930). In recent works, acrochaetoid algae have been placed within one or two distinct families; e. g., the Chantransiaceae Rabenhorst, the Acrochaetiaceae Fritsch, the Rhodochortonaceae Nasr, the Audouinellaceae Feldmann *ex* Woelkerling (Rabenhorst 1868, Fritsch 1944, Nasr 1947, Kylin 1944, 1956, Feldmann 1962, Woelkerling 1971, 1973 b, Abbott and Hollenberg 1976, Dixon and Irvine 1977, Stegenga 1979, Lee 1980). The family concepts for acrochaetoid algae were discussed by Woelkerling (1971, 1973 b, 1983), Garbary (1978) and Garbary *et al.* (1982). Stegenga (1979) summarized the historical background on family concepts.

Feldmann (1962) proposed a classification scheme in which the Audouinellaceae was established. Woelkerling (1971) argued that the Audouinellaceae Feldmann was not validly published and had no status, and he reintroduced it with a valid description. However, following a personal communication from Papenfuss and Silva, Woelkerling (1973 b) then decided that the Audouinellaceae Woelkerling was superfluous and used the Acrochaetiaceae Fritsch as the fam-

ily name of acrochaetoid algae. In recent works, the Acrochaetiaceae has been generally used for the family name (Dixon and Irvine *in* Parke and Dixon 1976, Dixon and Irvine 1977, Woelkerling 1973 b, Garbary 1979, Lee 1980, Garbary *et al.* 1982). Although the name Acrochaetiaceae was first used by Fritsch (1944), he failed to give a description of it. The first author to validate the name Acrochaetiaceae was Taylor (1957, cf. Silva 1980 a, 1980 b). Thus, the Acrochaetiaceae Fritsch *ex* Taylor (1957) is apparently predated by the Rhodochortonaceae Nasr (1947). Silva (1980 a, 1980 b) used Rhodochortaceae instead of Rhodochortonaceae under Article 18.1 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) (Voss *et al.* 1983). Therefore, the Rhodochortaceae Nasr is adopted for the family name of acrochaetoid algae in this paper under Articles 32 and 45 of ICBN.

Review of Generic Concepts

More than twenty generic names have been used for acrochaetoid algae: *Byssus* Linnaeus (1753), *Conferva* Linnaeus (1753), *Ceramium* Roth (1797), *Chantransia* De Candolle (1801), *Trentepohlia* Martius (1817, cf. Lee 1980), *Callithamnion* Lyngbye (1819), *Audouinella* Bory (1823), *Acrochaetium* Naegeli (Naegeli and Cramer 1858, cf. Woelkerling 1983 and Silva *in* Farr *et al.* 1979), *Rhodochorton* Naegeli (1861), *Trentepohlia* Pringsheim (1862), *Thamnidium* Thuret (*in* Le Jolis 1863), *Balbiania* Sirodot (1876), *Colaconema* Batters (1896), *Kylinia* Rosenvinge (1909), *Pseudochantransia* Brand (1910), *Chantransiella* Brebner (cf. De Toni 1924: p. 63), *Liagorophila* Yamada (1944), *Grania* (Rosenvinge) Kylin (1944), *Chromastrum* Papenfuss (1945), *Rhodothamniella* Feldmann (1954), and *Pseu-*

acrochaetium von Stosch (1965). However, most of them are not relevant to acrochaetioid algae. *Bysus* and *Trentepohlia* (*sensu* Martius) appeared to be associated with taxa of the Chlorophyta (Silva 1950, Silva in Farr *et al.* 1979). *Ceramium* and *Callithamnion* are genera of the Ceramiaceae, Rhodophyta. *Conferva* was suppressed as a typonym of *Hydrodictyon*, Chlorophyta (Silva 1952, Silva in Farr *et al.* 1979). *Chantrelaria* is no longer valid because none of the species originally listed by De Candolle (1801) have remained in the genus (Drew 1928, Lee 1980). *Pseudochantrelaria* was found to represent the prothalloid stage of *Lemanea* or *Batrachospermum* (Brand 1897, 1910). *Trentepohlia* (*sensu* Pringsheim) and *Thamnidium* were predated by *Acrochaetium* or *Rhodochorton* and should be rejected under Article 63 of the ICBN (cf. Woelkerling 1971). The remaining generic names are still used for acrochaetioid algae by phycologists.

Audouinella was established by Bory (1823) for three species. Two of them, *Au. funiformis* Bory and *Au. chalybea* (Roth) Bory, are now known to be a species of *Spongomorpha*, Chlorophyta and an asexual form of *Batrachospermum*, respectively (Kuetzing 1849, Sirodot 1884, De Toni 1895, Kuckuck 1964, Cardinal 1964). The third, *Au. miniata* Bory, appeared to be conspecific with *Au. hermanni* (Roth) Duby and represented an autonomous species with isomorphic alternation of generations [Duby 1830, Desvaux 1809, Israelson 1942, Woelkerling 1971, Drew 1928; as *Rhodochorton violaceum* (Kuetz.) Drew]. Thus, *Audouinella* Bory is the oldest valid generic name in the Rhodochortaceae. The General Committee of the Botanical Congress in Berlin agreed *Audouinella* Bonnemaisson (1828: p. 146) as the correct generic name instead of *Audouinella* Bory (cf. Silva 1980b). *Acrochaetium* was established by Naegeli in 1858 (Silva in Farr *et al.* 1979, Woelkerling 1983). Naegeli mentioned four species of the genus viz.: *Ac. secundatum* (Lyngbye) Naegeli, *Ac. lanuginosum* (Dillwyn) Naegeli, *Ac. griffithianum* Naegeli, and *Ac. microscopicum* (Naegeli in Kuetzing 1849) Naegeli (Woelkerling 1983). Later, he restricted *Acrochaetium* to taxa producing only monosporangia (= Schwärmsporen *sensu* Naegeli 1861). *Rhodochorton* was also established by Naegeli (1861) with two species viz.: *R. rothii* (Turton) Naegeli and *R. floridulum* (Dillwyn) Naegeli. Later, *R. rothii* was revealed to be conspecific with *Rhodochorton purpureum* (Lightfoot) Rosenvinge (Papenfuss 1945, Lee 1980). *Rhodochorton purpureum* has been generally cited as the type species of *Rhodochorton* (Papenfuss 1945, Stegenga 1979, Lee 1980). Naegeli (1861) circumscribed *Rhodochorton* for taxa producing only tetrasporangia. *Balbiania* was established by Sirodot (1876) on the basis of the monotypic species *B. investiens* (Lenormand) Sirodot. This genus was restricted to monoecious taxa of acrochaetioid algae. However, Swale and Belcher (1963) concluded after field and culture studies that *B. investiens* was not fundamentally different from other members of acrochaetioid algae (= *Rhodochorton* - *Acrochaetium* complex *sensu* Papenfuss 1945). Batters (1896) founded *Colaconema* on the basis of acrochaetioid algae living in the cell wall of a host and included three taxa in the genus viz.: *Co. bonnemaisoniae* Batters, *Co. chylocladiae* Batters, and *Co. reticulatum* Batters. However, *Co. chylocladiae* was transferred to *Acrochaetium* in his later publication (Batters 1902), and *Co. reticulatum* has become the type species of *Coladodictyon* Feldmann (1955). *Kylinia* was established by Rosenvinge (1909) for the species having specialized spermatangial mother cells (= androphore cell *sensu* Rosenvinge) and longitudinal division of fertilized carpogonia. *Kylinia rosulata* Rosenvinge was the type species of *Kylinia*. However, the fertilized carpogonium of *K. rosulata* was known to cut off 2-3 carposporangia laterally or terminally without previous division (Feldmann 1958). *Grania* was established as a subgenus by Rosenvinge (1909) for taxa containing one or more band- or spiral-shaped chloroplasts. Kylin (1944) elevated *Grania* to generic status with monotypic species *G. efflorescens* (J. Agardh) Kylin. Papenfuss (1945) regarded *Grania* to be synonymous with *Audouinella* because there was no difference in generic delineation between *G. efflorescens* and the members of *Audouinella*. *Liagorophila* was established on *L. endophytica* Yamada, and restricted to taxa showing a longitudinal division of the fertilized carpogonium by Yamada (1944). Although Fan and Li (1964) and Abbott (1966) made a contribution to the knowledge of *L. endophytica*, there is some doubt about the identity of the collections examined by them. Lee *et al.* (1986) clarified the taxon, *L. endophytica*, by examination of the type and allied collections. *Chromastrum* was established for taxa containing one or more stellate chloroplasts per cell, and *Ch. virgatulum* (Harvey) Papenfuss as the type species of the genus (Papenfuss 1945). Later, Papenfuss (1947) merged *Chromastrum* into *Kylinia* on the basis of the report made by Kylin (1944), in which the type species of *Kylinia*, *K. rosulata* was said to contain stellate chloroplasts. Feldmann (1958) revealed *K. rosulata* contained a parietal laminate chloroplast without pyrenoid and not a stellate one as described by Kylin (1944). Therefore, it is likely that *Chromastrum* is distinct from *Kylinia* at least in regard to chloroplast morphology. Stegenga and Vroman (1977) and Stegenga and Mulder (1979) regarded *Chromastrum* as a distinct genus in respect to the mode of spore germination. Feldmann (1954) erected *Rhodothum-*

niella for taxa containing more than one parietal chloroplasts with one or more pyrenoids and gave *Rhodothamniella floridula* (Dillwyn) Feldmann as the type species of the genus. Christensen (1978) and Feldmann (1981) provided a generic description of *Rhodothamniella* for nomenclaturally valid publication. Lee (1980) summarized several representative characteristics of the type species of the genera mentioned above.

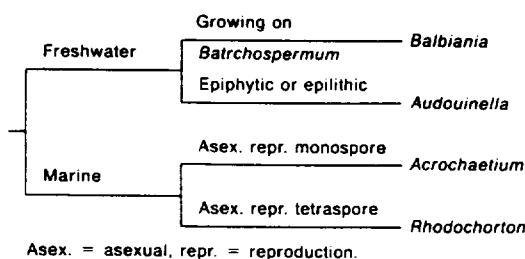
Generic Classification Schemes

Bornet (1904) divided the acrochaetioid algae into two genera viz.: *Chantransia* for taxa having sexual reproduction, and *Acrochaetium* for taxa having no sexual reproduction. Collins (1906) followed Bornet's opinion. Woelkerling (1971) proposed an arrangement similar to Bornet's opinion and recognized a form genus, *Colaconema*, for taxa in which sexual reproduction was unknown and one natural genus, *Audouinella*, for taxa in which sexual reproduction was known. However, Woelkerling's opinion has not been generally adopted (cf. D'Acosta and Ganesan 1972, Kumano 1978, Stegenga and van Erp 1979). The form genus concept seems not to be an effective solution to taxonomic problems of the Rhodochortaceae.

Hamel (1925) proposed a classification scheme on the basis of habitat, host specificity, and sexual reproduction (Fig. 1). He applied the chloroplast morphology as an additional criterion for circumscribing genera. However, the habitat and the host specificity are generally regarded not to be realistic as taxonomic criteria (Drew 1928, Woelkerling 1971, Lee 1980). Recently, culture studies have also indicated that acrochaetioid algae are not obligately associated with particular hosts.

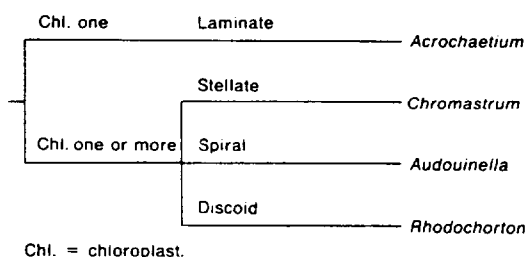
Papenfuss (1945) introduced a scheme on the basis of the shape and number of chloroplast (Fig. 2). According to Papenfuss' scheme, *Rhodochorton purpureum*, *R. floridulum*, and *R. subimmersum* Setchell et Gardner should be assigned to *Rhodochorton*, *Chromastrum*, and *Acrochaetium*, respectively. In regard to sexual cycles, these three species have the same life cycle pattern (West 1969, 1970 b, Ohta and Kurogi 1979, Stegenga 1978, Lee and Kurogi 1978, Lee 1985). Therefore, the shape and number of chloroplast, if the character is applied to generic circumscription as a primary criterion, leads to a different alignment than does the pattern of life cycle.

Kylin (1944, 1956) employed habitat, mode of mono- or tetrasporangium formation, basal system morphology, chloroplast morphology, and post-fertilization development for generic circumscription (Fig. 3).



Asex. = asexual, repr. = reproduction.

Fig. 1. The diagrammatic expression of Hamel's classification scheme (Hamel 1925).

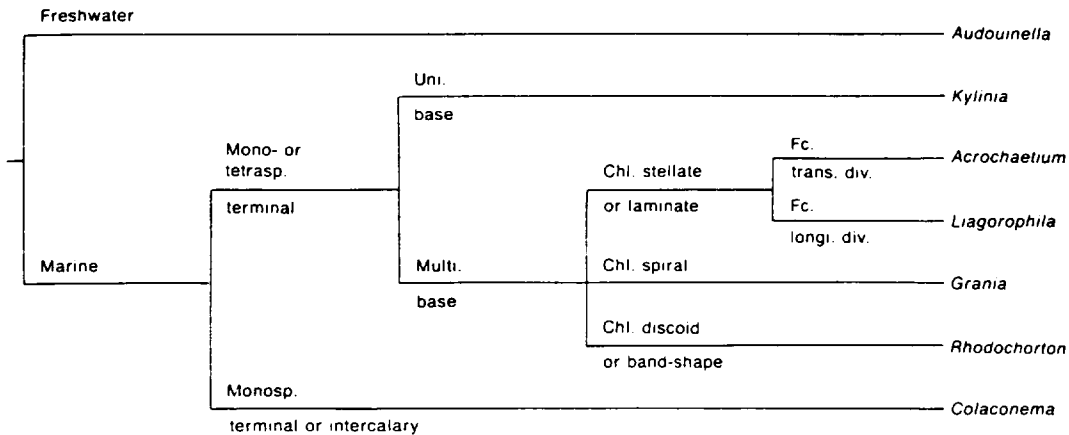


Chl. = chloroplast.

Fig. 2. The diagrammatic expression of Papenfuss' classification scheme (Papenfuss 1945).

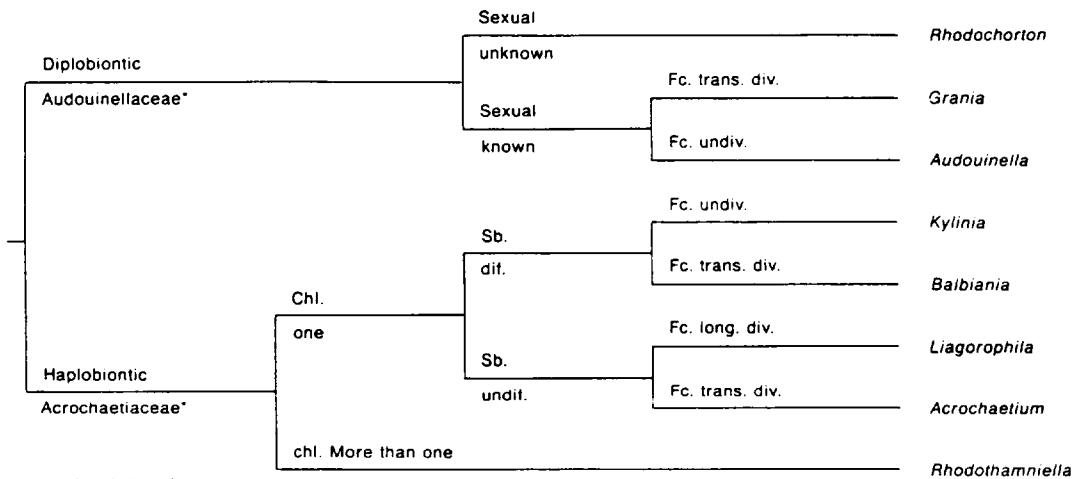
Drew (1928) showed that marine or freshwater habitat could not be used as a generic criterion (see also Dixon and Irvine 1977). Culture studies have shown that the life cycle of a number of species is completed with heteromorphic generations such as tetrasporangial phase having a multicellular base and gametangial phase having a unicellular base: e.g., *Acrochaetium pectinatum* (Kylin) Hamel (West 1968, Abdel-Rahman and Magne 1983), *Rhodochorton floridulum* (Stegenga 1978), and *Audouinella alariae* (Jónsson) Woelkerling (Lee and Kurogi 1983). In this scheme, *Au. alariae* and *Rhodochorton floridulum* can be assigned to both genera *Kylinia* and *Acrochaetium*, and *Acrochaetium pectinatum* to both *Kylinia* and *Grania*. Therefore, this scheme is no longer effective in solving taxonomic problems of the Rhodochortaceae.

Feldmann (1962) proposed a scheme on the basis of sexual cycle, chloroplast morphology, mode of spermatangium formation, and post-fertilization development (Fig. 4). Abbott (1962) regarded the mode of spermatangium formation as an effective criterion for grouping acrochaetioid algae. *Rhodothamniella floridula*, the type species of *Rhodothamniella*, has a diphasic life cycle which is a similar pattern to that of *Rhodochorton purpureum* (West 1969, 1970 b, Stegenga 1978, Ohta and Kurogi 1979). *Kylinia rosulata* has specialized spermatangial branches (see also



Chl. = chloroplast. Fc. = fertilized carpogonium. longi. = longitudinal. trans. = transverse. div. = division. Multi. = multicellular. Uni. = unicellular. Mono- or tetrasp. = mono- or tetrasporangium. Monosp. = monosporangium.

Fig. 3. The diagrammatic expression of Kylin's classification scheme (Kylin 1956).



* the familial rank.

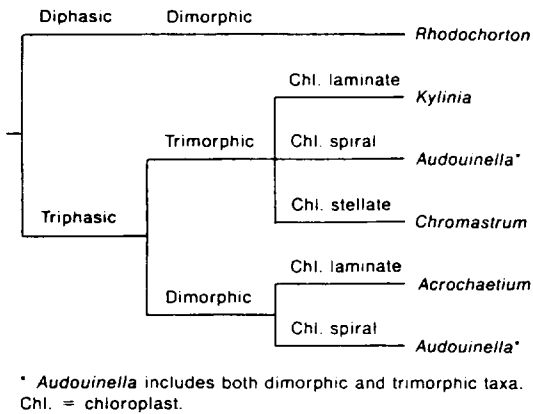
Chl. = chloroplast. dif. = differentiated, Fc. = fertilized carpogonium. long. = longitudinal. trans. = transverse. Div. = division. undiv. = undivided. Sb. = spermatangial branch, undif. = undifferentiated.

Fig. 4. The diagrammatic expression of Feldmann's classification scheme (Feldmann 1962).

Moestrup *et al.* 1975). A number of species produce spermatangia in clusters on small-celled branchlets: e. g., *Acrochaetium dotyi* (Abbott 1962), *Acrochaetium botryocarpum* (Harvey) J. Agardh (Woelkerling 1970), and *Audouinella dictyota* (Collins) Woelkerling (Lee 1987). *Audouinella kurogii* Lee et Lindstrom and *Au. alariae* usually produce spermatangia on the stalk cells of carpogonia [Lee and Linstrom 1979, Lee and Kurogi 1983, Lee 1983, Kuiper 1983; as *Chromastrum alariae* (Jónsson) Papenfuss]. Therefore, it is difficult to clearly define the differentiated spermatangial branch *sensu* Feldmann (1962).

Stegenga (1979, see also Stegenga and Vroman 1977) regarded the sexual cycle and the chloroplast morphology as the criteria to distinguish genera of the Rhodochortaceae (Fig. 5). Later, Stegenga (1895) changed some generic names in his classification scheme: *Chromastrum* to *Acrochaetium*, *Acrochaetium* to *Colaçonema*, and *Kylinia* to a new name (not designated). He also regarded *Rhodothamniella* as a distinct genus on the basis of chloroplast morphology.

Woelkerling (1983) provided a scheme on the basis of sexual cycles (Fig. 6). Woelkerling (1983) emphasized



* *Audouinella* includes both dimorphic and trimorphic taxa. Chl. = chloroplast.

Fig. 5. The diagrammatic expression of Stegenga's classification scheme (Stegenga 1979).

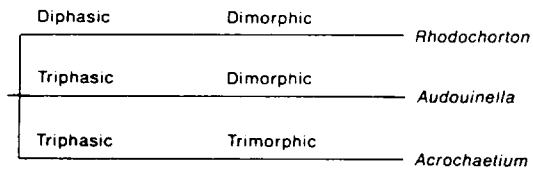


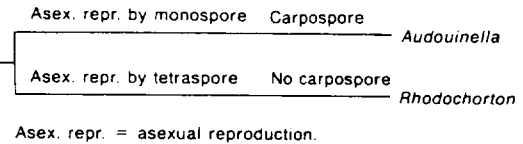
Fig. 6. The diagrammatic expression of Woelkerling's classification scheme (Woelkerling 1983).

that the sexual cycle of acrochaetoid algae represented distinct lines of evolutionary development. However, both the schemes of Stegenga (1979) and Woelkerling (1983) are at present difficult to apply to taxa when the sexual cycle are unknown.

Lee (1980) proposed a classification scheme on the basis of asexual reproduction (Fig. 7). Lee (1980) postulated the correlation of production between monosporangia and carposporangia in acrochaetoid algae. The carposporangial plant can develop from a fertilized carpogonium on gametangial plants of the taxa producing monosporangia. On the other hand, the carposporophytic phase may be reduced in taxa producing no monosporangia. In this scheme, *Audouinella* includes taxa having asexual cycles with monospores and triphasic sexual cycles with gametophytic, carposporophytic, and tetrasporophytic phases. *Rhodochorton* is restricted to taxa having asexual cycles not with monospores but with tetraspores and diphasic sexual cycles with gametophytic and tetrasporophytic phases.

Drew (1928) advocated a single genus concept and employed *Rhodochorton* as the genus name for all acrochaetoid algae irrespective of habitat. Nakamura (1944), Nasr (1947) and Lee and Lee (1974) followed

the contention of Drew (1928). Dixon and Irvine (1977, in Parke and Dixon 1976), Garbary (1979, 1980) and Garbary *et al.* (1982) concluded that there was no logical basis for the delineation of genera because of no obvious discontinuity between groups and adopted *Audouinella* as the genus name. On the contrary, Stegenga (1979; p. 23) said "... The taxonomic status of such clusters need not solely be determined by the existence of obvious discontinuities, but in addition by the magnitude of the differences between them. ... division into a number of different genera would be rather convenient in a group as large as the Acrochaetiaceae. ..." The number of genera in a family is hardly worth consideration in an effort to approach to natural classification no matter whether a group is large or small.

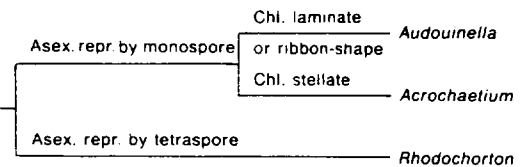


Asex. repr. = asexual reproduction.

Fig. 7. The diagrammatic expression of Lee's classification scheme (Lee 1980).

Conclusion

The sexual cycle is not so satisfactory as a primary criterion for classification of acrochaetoid algae because the sexual cycles of the majority of more than 400 described taxa are still unknown (cf. Woelkerling 1983). A new classification scheme is developed from that of Lee (1980) by employing the chloroplast morphology as an additional criterion for taxa of *Audouinella sensu* Lee (1980). Thus, three genera are adopted in the new scheme (Fig. 8): *Audouinella*, *Acrochaetium*, and *Rhodochorton*. *Audouinella* is characterized by producing monosporangia and having parietal laminate or ribbon-like chloroplasts. *Acrochaetium* is restricted to taxa producing monosporangia and containing stellate chloroplasts. *Rhodochorton* includes taxa producing no monosporangia on both gametangial and tetrasporangial plants.



Asex. repr. = asexual reproduction, Chl. = chloroplast.

Fig. 8. The diagrammatic expression of the classification scheme (present study).

Woelkerling (1971) regarded the chloroplast morphology as an unreliable criterion to distinguish genera. In several taxa, the shape of chloroplast can differ depending upon the situation or position in a thallus, viz. whether a cell is in active division or not, and whether it occurs in an erect or basal system, e.g., *Chantransia immersa* Rosenvinge (Rosenvinge 1909), *Acrochaetium macropus* Kylin et Skotsberg [Lee 1980; as *Audouinella macropus* (Kylin et Skotsberg) comb. nov.], *Acrochaetium liagorae* Børgesen (Abbott 1962), *Ac. pectinatum* (West 1968, Abbott and Hollenberg 1976, Woelkerling 1971), *Acrochaetium arcuatum* (Drew) Tseng (Abbott and Hollenberg 1976), *Acrochaetium bonnemaisoniae* (Batters) J. et G. Feldmann (Boney 1972), *Audouinella codicola* (Børgesen) Garbary (Lee 1987), *Rhodochorton rhizoideum* Drew (Drew 1928), *R. floridulum* (Stegenga 1978), *Rhodochorton concrescens* Drew (1970a), *Rhodochorton membranaceum* (Magnus) Hauck (Lee 1980), *R. purpureum* (Drew 1928; as *Rhodochorton tenue* Kylin and *R. rothii*), and *Rhodochorton spetsbergense* (Kjellman) Kjellman [Drew 1928; as *Rhodochorton peniciliforme* (Kjellman) Rosenvinge], etc. However, no instance where a thallus contained both stellate and parietal laminate or ribbon-like chloroplasts was reported. Thus, chloroplast morphology is regarded as an effective criterion for classification of acrochaetioid algae which produce monosporangia.

Audouinella in this scheme may not be segregated further on the basis of the shape and number of chloroplast at present because certain taxa of the genus contain both parietal laminate and ribbon-like chloroplasts; e.g., *Au. hermanni* (Drew 1935; as *Rhodochorton violaceum*) and *Ac. pectinatum* [West 1968, Woelkerling 1971; as *Audouinella pectinata* (Kylin) Papenfuss]. Consequently, *Grania* and *Kylinia* are merged into *Audouinella* because the type species of the former two genera contain ribbon-like and parietal laminate chloroplasts, respectively.

Acrochaetium daviesii (Dillwyn) Naegeli is one of the species listed in *Acrochaetium* by Naegeli (1861). This species was cited as the type species of *Acrochaetium* (Drew 1928, Papenfuss 1945, Woelkerling 1971, Lee 1980). However, Woelkerling (1983) chose *Ac. secundatum* as the type species of *Acrochaetium* because this species was a member of the genus in the earlier publication of Naegeli (*in* Naegeli and Cramer 1858, cf. Silva *in* Farr *et al.* 1979) and *Ac. daviesii* was not. *Acrochaetium* was characterized by producing only monosporangia (Naegeli 1861). *Chromastrum* was apparently characterized by stellate chloroplasts (Papenfuss 1945). However, the type species of both *Acrochaetium* and *Chromastrum* contain stellate chloro-

plasts. Consequently, the two genera are congeneric, and *Acrochaetium* Naegeli should be adopted for the taxon on the basis of nomenclatural priority. *Liagorophila* is distinct in post-fertilization development and in having persistent trichogynes. However, *Liagorophila* is provisionally merged into *Acrochaetium* because the type species of the former has stellate chloroplasts, pending that more information is accumulated in acrochaetioid algae.

Rhodochorton is easily distinguished as exclusively producing tetrasporangia. It is known for some members of *Rhodochorton* that the formation of free carpospores was reduced (West 1969, Stegenga 1979, Lee and Kurogi 1978). Although *Rhodothamniella* was characterized as having stellate chloroplasts, the type species of the genus, *Rhodothamniella floridula*, had no fundamental difference from *Rhodochorton purpureum* with regard to exclusively producing tetrasporangia. Therefore, both genera, *Rhodochorton* and *Rhodothamniella*, are congeneric.

Various patterns of post-fertilization development are encountered in *Audouinella*. A carpospore is produced by transformation of a fertilized carpogonium in *Au. pectinata* (sporozygote *sensu* Abdel-Rahman and Magne 1983). Carposporangia are produced without division of a fertilized carpogonium in *Kylinia rosulata* (Feldmann 1958), or after transverse division in *Audouinella hermanni* (Drew 1935; as *Rhodochorton violaceum*) and *Au. dictyotae* (Woelkerling 1971, Lee 1987). Somewhat developed carposporophytes are encountered in *Acrochaetium dasyae* Collins (Stegenga and Borsje 1976) and *Audouinella thuretii* (Bornet) Woelkerling [Kylin 1907; as *Chantransia thuretii* (Bornet) Kylin]. Concatenate carposporangia are formed by transformation of 2–3 distal cells of branches of the carposporophyte of *Audouinella efflorescens* (J. Agardh) Papenfuss [Rosenvinge 1909; as *Chantransia efflorescens* (J. Agardh) Kjellman]. The carposporangia of *Acrochaetium imitator* Abbott are produced by repeatedly longitudinal division of the daughter cell derived from transverse division of a fertilized carpogonium (Abbott 1962).

Post-fertilization development is also varied in *Acrochaetium*. Fertilized carpogonia divided longitudinally in *Liagorophila endophytica* (Lee *et al.* 1986, Bula-Meyer 1986) and transversely in *Audouinella alariae* (Lee and Kurogi 1983, Lee 1983, Kuiper 1983; as *Chromastrum alariae*) and *Acrochaetium microscopicum* (Stegenga and Mulder 1979). Variation in spore germination mode and carposporophyte morphology has been elucidated in several members of *Acrochaetium* by Stegenga and Mulder (1979).

Rhodochorton is an assemblage of taxa containing variously shaped chloroplasts, viz. stellate in *Rhodochorton floridulum* (Kornmann and Sahling 1977, Kuckuck 1897), discoid in *R. purpureum* (Kuckuck 1897, Lee 1980) and *R. spetsbergense* [Woelkerling 1973 b: as *Audouinella spetsbergense* (Kjellman) Woelkerling], an irregularly partite form in *R. membranaceum* (Kuckuck 1897, Lee 1980), and parietal laminate in *R. subimmersum* (Drew 1928, Nakamura 1941, Lee and Kurogi 1978) and *Audouinella tetraspora* Garbary et Rueness (Garbary and Rueness 1980).

Appendix

List of proposed new combinations

- 1) *Acrochaetium kurogii* (Lee et Lindstrom) Lee et Lee comb. nov. Basionym: *Audouinella kurogii* Lee et Lindstrom (1979), p. 115.
- 2) *Acrochaetium yamadae* (Garbary) Lee et Lee comb. nov. Basionym: *Liagorophila endophytica* Yamada (1944), p. 16. Garbary (1980; p. 67) proposed a new name, *Audouinella yamadae* Garbary, for this taxon.

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- 3) *Rhodochorton tetrasporum* (Garbary et Rueness) Lee et Lee comb. nov. Basionym: *Audouinella tetraspora* Garbary et Rueness (1980), p. 17.

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