

Occurrence of the fungus *Clathrus archeri* (Phallaceae) in the Rożnowskie Foothills (Western Carpathians, Poland)

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Abstract: The paper presents the description of the new site of the expanding fungus *Clathrus archeri* (Berk.) Dring. in the Polish part of the Carpathians.

Key words: fungi, alien species, stinkhorn mushrooms, distributional data, Carpathians

Introduction

Clathrus archeri (Berk.) Dring. is a representative of the family Phallaceae native to Australia, Malay Archipelago, Mauritius, New Zealand, South and East Africa, South America and Tasmania. It was introduced to Europe (first locality La Petite Raon, France) probably with wool or cotton at the beginning of the 20th century and after acclimatization it started to expand in Western and Central Europe (Stengl-Rejthar & Wojewoda 1984).

In Poland *C. archeri* was observed for the first time in 1973 in the vicinity of Wzgórz Krzyżowe near of the village Sieniawka in Lower Silesia (Chlebicki 1997). At present, number of its sites in the country is estimated above 90 (Szczepkowski & Obidziński 2012). First data from the Polish part of the Carpathians (south-eastern slopes of Mt Wielki Rogacz near Piwniczna in the Beskid Sądecki) originate from 1981 (Stengl-Rejthar & Wojewoda 1984). Currently, this species is known here from scattered sites (Wojewoda 2003; Szczepkowski & Obidziński 2012).

Description of the new locality

The new site of *Clathrus archeri* was found on the Rożnowskie Foothills near the settlement Olszowa-Podlesie on the western slope of Mt Styr; altitude 356 m; GPS coordinates 49°48'33.9"N, 20°48'18.4"E, ATPOL grid square EF 96 (Fig. 1). Nine fruit bodies of *C. archeri* (Fig. 3) occurred at margin of disused meadow overgrown by *Solidago gigantea* and young *Betula pendula* forest (Fig. 2).

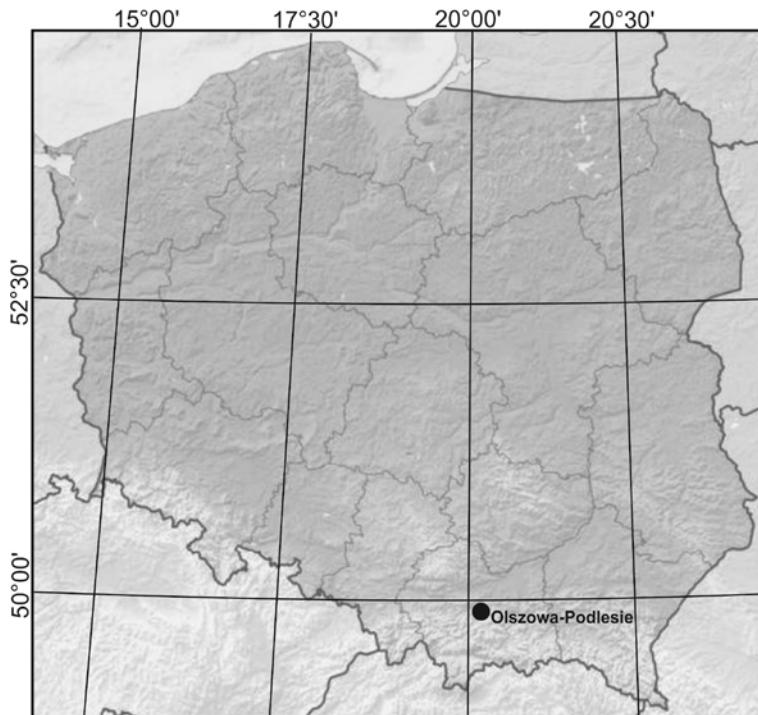


Fig 1: New site of *Clathrus archeri* in Poland.



Fig 2: General view on site of *Clathrus archeri* (Photo by A. Stebel, 17 August 2014).



Fig 3: Fruit body of *Clathrus archeri* (Photo by A. Stebel, 17 August 2014).

Discussion

Clathrus archeri is a species, which relatively not long ago appeared in Poland, but in the recent years the number of its localities has quickly increased and currently it is estimated over 90. As in other members of the family Phallaceae, it is characterized by wide habitat range, thus it can inhabit various plant communities, both natural and anthropogenic (Szczepkowski & Obidziński 2012). On the Rożnowskie Foothills this species was reported from Sucha Góra (Trzeciak 2000), a place located about 10 km towards east from newly found site in Olszowa-Podlesie. Taking into consideration diversity of habitats of the area, discovery of next sites of *C. archeri* in the near future is highly probable.

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