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***Cladonia subturgida* a very little known Mediterranean lichen**

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Cladonia subturgida Samp. is a species that for a long time was known only from a single locality in Beira Alta (NW Portugal). After a morphological, chemical and molecular study of similar species it was concluded that *C. subturgida* is a morphologically and chemically polymorphic species that should include *C. iberica* Burgaz & Ahti, but is not related with *C. corsicana* (Rondon & Vězda) Pino-Bodas, Burgaz & M. P. Martín (*C. turgida* var. *corsicana* Rondon & Vězda), and its distribution was enlarged to SW of the Iberian Peninsula.

As result from new collections, this species is much more frequent in other countries of the Mediterranean Region. It has been found in South France, Sardinia (Italy) and Greece (continental areas and Crete).

This species has a persistent primary thallus with long squamules (6-16 × 5-4 mm), upper surface light green to olivaceous and lower surface white to greyish colour. Podetia are not very often encountered, not scyphose, branched, 5.5-15 × 1-2.3 mm, corticated and with open axils. Apothecia are common, dark brown. Pycnidia are very common, on the squamules surface, pedunculated, black. The chemistry is variable with six different chemotypes, but atranorin and protolichesterinic acid are the most frequent substances.

It grows on bare soils or earth bank, preferably acidic or subneutrophilous. The dominant vegetation is *Cistus* shrubs, heathlands, Pinus or oak formations. The altitude ranges from 25 to 1225 m.

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