

## TRAMETES SERPENS

This species was first described by Fries in 1818 under *Polyporus*, then transferred to *Daedalea* in 1821, and finally to *Trametes* in 1874. In the "Systema," the following description of it appears:

"*D. serpens*, effusa, suberoso-tenuis, confluens, ligneo-pallens, margine villosa, poris magnis inaequalibus.

"Color *D. quercinae*. Margo tenuis, pubescens. Sinulorum dissepimenta crassa. Inter corticis rimas per lineas elongatas seriatae & confluentes serpit. *Ad truncos Quercus mortuos, sed non prostratos!*"

This description was well supplemented by Fries in his *Icon. pl. 192, f. 3*, which shows the characteristic, large, unequal pores, over 1 mm. in diameter. The spores are said to be ovoid, hyaline,  $14 \times 6 \mu$ , and no mention is made of setae. I have examined specimens in the various European herbaria and have in the collection here an excellent specimen from Bristol, England, sent by Masee. The conclusion I reached at Upsala in 1906 was: "All the *Trametes serpens* found in Europe is entirely different from what goes by this name in America. The pores are larger and are all different."

When collecting in Cuba, I found the American plant very abundant, and it is surprising that it does not appear prominently in the list of Cuban fungi collected by Wright. The only description in this list that seems to fit it is of *Polyporus excurrens* (*Wright 391*), collected once in April on the underside of old logs and described by Berkeley and Curtis as

"Totus resupinatus, immarginatus, lignicolor; poris mediis subangulatis demum sinuosis, dissepimentis crassiusculis obtusis acie subtiliter tomentosis. Pores  $\frac{1}{60}$  inch in diameter."

The type of this species was not found by me at Kew, and the brief description alone would hardly justify a positive statement regarding its identity. I have asked Miss Wakefield to look up the type.

In the "Ellis Collection," many specimens are found collected in Florida, where this species seems to be unusually abundant on various kinds of dead deciduous wood. These specimens are



Murrill, William A. 1920. "Trametes serpens." *Mycologia* 12(1), 46–47.

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