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Species of the genus Macrolepiota (Agaricaceae) in China were investigated on the basis of morphology and DNA sequences data. Six species, i.e., M. detersa, M. dolichaula, M. mastoidea, M. orientiexcoriata, M. procera, and M. velosa are recognized, of which M. detersa and M. orientiexcoriata are new species. All of them are described and illustrated with line drawings, and a key is provided to those recognized species. The taxonomic uncertainty of M. crustosa, originally described from China, is also discussed. ITS sequences were used to support the new species delimitations and to test the conspecificity between the Chinese specimens and their relatives from other continents. Phylogenetic analyses identify three clades within Macrolepiota: /macrolepiota, /macroseporae, and /volvatae clade. /macrolepiota clade and /macroseporae clade respectively correspond to section Macrolepiota and section Macroseporae in Bon’s infrageneric classification. Section Volvatae is proposed to accommodate species with a volva but without clamp connections within Macrolepiota.

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The genus *Macrolepiota* (Agaricaceae, Basidiomycota) in China

Z. W. Ge · Zhu L. Yang · Else C. Vellinga

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**Abstract** Species of the genus *Macrolepiota* (Agaricaceae) in China were investigated on the basis of morphology and DNA sequences data. Six species, i.e., *M. detersa*, *M. dolichaula*, *M. mastoidea*, *M. orientixcoriata*, *M. procera*, and *M. velosa* are recognized, of which *M. detersa* and *M. orientixcoriata* are new species. All of them are described and illustrated with line drawings, and a key is provided to those recognized species. The taxonomic uncertainty of *M. crustosa*, originally described from China, is also discussed. ITS sequences were used to support the new species delimitations and to test the conspecificity between the Chinese specimens and their relatives from other continents. Phylogenetic analyses identify three clades within *Macrolepiota*: /macrolepiota, /macrosporae, and /volvatae clade. /macrolepiota clade and /macrosporae clade respectively correspond to section *Macrolepiota* and section *Macrosporae* in Bon's infrageneric classification. Section *Volvatae* is proposed to accommodate species with a volva but without clamp connections within *Macrolepiota*.

**Keywords** Agaricales · Chlorophyllum · Morphology · Systematics · Taxonomy

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**Introduction**

The genus *Macrolepiota* (Agaricaceae, Agaricales, Basidiomycota) was established by Singer (1948). Macroscopically, basidiomata of species in this genus are typically big, fleshy, and often with squamules on the pileus; lamellae are white to cream; a prominent annulus is usually present which is often movable. Microscopically, clamp connections are present on the septa of the hyphae in lamellae; basidiospores are thick-walled, relatively big, white to cream when accumulated, and the inner spore-wall is metachromatic in cresyl blue (Singer 1948).

Originally, *Macrolepiota* only accommodated non-volvate species. Species with a well-formed cup-like volva were placed in a separate genus, namely *Volvolepiota* Singer (Singer 1959). A recent study indicated that a volva at the base of the stipe does not warrant a separate genus, and thus, *Volvolepiota* is synonymous with *Macrolepiota* (Vellinga and Yang 2003). Accordingly, the genus *Macrolepiota* in the current sense also contains species with a cup-like volva.

Based on morphological and molecular data, Johnson (1999) investigated the traditional classification of the light-spored *Lepiota* s.l., and found *Macrolepiota* is not monophyletic. Later on, Vellinga et al. (2003) evaluated the generic level of *Macrolepiota*, which was shown to be a monophyletic genus after transferring species with pileal squamules made up of a hymenidermal layer, spores with truncated germ pore or without a germ pore, and a smooth stipe to *Chlorophyllum* Massee. Consequently, representatives of *Macrolepiota* in the present sense are characterized by the combination of the following characters: pileal squamules of a trichodermal layer, spores with a germ pore caused by an interruption of the episporium covered by a hyalineous
and the presence of stipe squamules, often visible as colored bands in the full-grown specimens (Vellinga 2003; Vellinga et al. 2003).

Currently, there are about 30 species recognized worldwide (Kirk et al. 2008). Although the genus contains some edible species, which have been an interest to cultivate by researchers (e.g. Ding and Huang 2003), knowledge of this genus in East Asia is poor and fragmentary. Although a few species of *Macrolepiota* were recorded from China (Shao and Xiang 1981; Zang et al. 1996; Bi et al. 1997; Mao 2000; Teng 1996; Vellinga and Yang 2003), literature on these species has very limited information in the descriptions, and information on voucher specimens is lacking (e.g. Mao 2000, 2009; Teng 1996). Based on extensive morphological examination and molecular phylogenetic analyses, species diversity of *Macrolepiota* in China and the affinities to other species of *Macrolepiota* are presented. In addition, the infra-generic classification of *Macrolepiota* is also discussed.

**Materials and methods**

**Morphological studies**

The examined materials were collected in China, and deposited in KUN (with HKAS numbers), HMAS, GDGM, BPI and HMJAU. Herbarium codes used follow Thiers (2010). Color notations indicated in the descriptions are from Kornerup and Wanscher (1978), and Color codes are according to the Online Auction Color Chart™, indicated by ‘oac’ before a number. The descriptions of species are in alphabetical order by species epithet. In the description, macromorphology is based on the field notes and color slides of the material; micromorphology is based on observation of the material under microscope. Melzer’s reagent was used to test the amyloid of spores. Other structures (e.g. pileal structure, cheilocystidia and basidia) were observed in 5–10 % KOH and with Congo–red before making line drawings.

The abbreviation [n/m/p] shall mean n basidiospores measured from m fruit bodies of p collections in 5–10 % KOH solution. At least 20 basidiospores were measured for each collection. Dimensions for basidiospores are given as (a-) b-c (d-). The range b-c contains a minimum of 90% of the measured values. Extreme values (a and d) are given in parentheses. Q is used to mean “length/width ratio” of a spore in side view; avQ means average Q of all basidiospores ± sample standard deviation.

**DNA isolation and amplification**

Genomic DNA was extracted from dried material. Small parts of the pileus tissue were ground in an eppendorf tube using a pestle. DNA was isolated with a modified Cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) procedure of Doyle and Doyle (1987). ITS/5.8S rDNA were amplified using primers ITS1F and ITS4 (White et al. 1990; Gardes and Bruns 1993). PCR was performed in a total volume of 25 μl containing 1 U Taq DNA polymerase, 2.5 μl of 10× Taq polymerase reaction buffer, 1 μl of 25 mM magnesium chloride (QIAGEN Inc., Valencia, California, USA), 5 nmol of each dNTP, 0.6 μl of 10 μM each of the two primers and 1 μl of the DNA extract. PCR reactions were performed with 4 min initial denaturation at 95°C, followed by 34 cycles of 50 s at 94°C, 40 s at 53°C, 50 s at 72°C, and a final extension of 7 min at 72°C followed the last cycle. PCR products were purified using a QIAquick PCR purification kit (QIAGEN Inc., Valencia, California, USA). Sequencing was performed using a Bigdye terminator cycle sequencing kit (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, California, USA) following the manufacturer’s protocol. Sequencing primers for the ITS regions were ITS1F and ITS4. Sequencing reactions were purified using Pellet Paint (Novagen, Madison, Wisconsin, USA) and were run on an Applied Biosystems 377 XL automated DNA sequencer. Sequence chromatograms were compiled with Sequencher 4.1 software (GeneCodes Corporation, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA).

**Phylogenetic analyses**

Sequences were aligned using CLUSTAL X 1.81 followed by manual inspection and correction in MacClade (Thompson et al. 1997; Maddison and Maddison 2000). The resulting ITS data set was evaluated using two tree-building methodologies: the maximum parsimony (MP) criterion in PAUP* and the Bayesian criterion. Gaps were treated as missing data in all analyses.

Maximum Parsimony analysis was performed using PAUP* 4.0b10 (Swofford 2004). One thousand heuristic searches were conducted with random sequence addition and tree bisection-reconnection (TBR) branch-swapping algorithms, collapsing zero-length branches and saving all minimal-length trees (MulTrees). To measure relative support for the resulting clades, 500 bootstrap replications were performed with the same parameters as for the parsimony analyses (Felsenstein 1985).

To test alternative phylogenetic relationships, the Bayesian analysis was performed using MCMC with Mr. Bayes V3.0b3 (Ronquist and Huelsenbeck 2003). Bayesian analyses were repeated 4.2 million generations and sampled every 100. The first 25% of generations were discarded as burn-in, and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP) were then calculated from the posterior distribution of the retained Bayesian trees.
Results

Morphological observations

115 putative Macrolepiota specimens were examined, and 87 specimens of Macrolepiota are cited in this paper. These examined specimens represent six Macrolepiota species of which two are new to science. The six recognized species are Macrolepiota detersa, M. dolichaula, M. mastoidea, M. orientiexcoriata, M. procera and M. velosa, and they will be described in detail in the taxonomy part. Some of the previous records of M. dolichaula and M. procera are misidentified in the literature and these will be addressed under the material examined part of each species.

Molecular phylogenetic results

Sequences generated in this study were deposited in GenBank with accession numbers from HM125507 through HM125532, and the GenBank accession numbers for ITS sequences are given with the lists of examined collections and in the phylogenetic tree (Fig. 1). The final alignment was deposited in TreeBASE (Study Accession URL: http://purl.org/phylo/treebase/phylows/study/TB2:S10499). The alignment comprises of 72 Macrolepiota sequences, plus 2 species of Leucoagaricus Locq. ex Singer. Leucoagaricus barssii (Zeller) Vellinga and L. meleagris (Sowerby) Singer were designated as outgroup based on a more inclusive analysis of sequences of Agaricaceae (unpublished personal data). The aligned data set included 752 base pairs, of which 22 bases were ambiguous and were excluded in the analyses. Among the analyzed 730 base pairs, 482 are constant, 48 are variable parsimony-uninformative characters, and 200 variable parsimony informative characters were used to reconstruct the phylogeny. Maximum parsimony analysis resulted in 9 equally parsimonious trees with a tree length of 448 steps, CI=0.730, RI=0.947, HI=0.270. Figure 1 shows one of the most parsimonious trees. Bayesian analysis resulted in similar results, except the clade formed by Macrolepiota celandii changed to be basal instead of the clade formed by Macrolepiota eucharis and Macrolepiota velosa. However, basal status of M. celandii does not get statistical support.

In order to distinguish clade names from traditional taxonomic names, clade names are written in lower cases, never italicized, and preceded with the symbol “/”. As shown in Fig. 1, Macrolepiota forms a well supported monophyletic group and got strong bootstrap (100%) and bayesian PP supports (1.00). Within Macrolepiota, three clades were recovered.

Clade 1, here referred to as /volvatae clade, includes two volvate species, M. eucharis and M. velosa, this clade got 98 % bootstrap support and 1.00 bayesian PP support. Macrolepiota velosa, described from southern China, is sister to M. eucharis, a species described from Australia.

Clade 2, here referred to as /macrolepiota clade, includes M. excoriata, M. mastoidea, M. orientiexcoriata, M.phaeodisca, M. konradii, M. psammophila, and M. subsquarrosa. This clade got 100% bootstrap and 1.00 bayesian PP support. Within this clade, collections of M. mastoidea from China clustered with collections from other areas; M. orientiexcoriata collections from China clustered together and got 64% bootstrap support.

Clade 3, here referred to as /macrolepiota clade, includes the generic type M. procera, and its related allies such as M. colombiana, M. detersa, M. dolichaula, M. fuliginosa, M. rhodosperma, and an undescribed species from North America. Macrolepiota celandii, a species described from Australia which may represent an independent clade (with 100% bootstrap support), formed a sister clade of the core /macrolepiota clade (excluding M. celandii) and got 51% bootstrap support. For now, we tentatively include it in the /macrolepiota clade.

Within this Clade 3, the core /macrolepiota clade received 98% bootstrap support and 1.00 Bayesian posterior probabilities support. Collections of M. procera from China, clustered together with a Japanese collection, forming an East Asian clade. This clade got 80% bootstrap support and 0.99 Bayesian PP support and turns out to be sister to European M. procera. Collections of M. dolichaula from China and Australia form a monophyletic clade and got 100% bootstrap support and 1.00 bayesian PP support. Macrolepiota detersa, a novel species described in the present paper, clustered with 3 collections of M. sp. from Japan and 100 % bootstrap support and 1.00 bayesian PP support.

Taxonomy

Macrolepiota detersa Z. W. Ge, Zhu. L. Yang & Vellinga sp. nov. Fig. 2

MycoBank: MB 518349

Pileus 8–12 cm diametro, primo ovoideus vel hemisphaericus, dein convexus vel plano-convexus, albus vel albidos, squamulis crustatis, griseolis-aurantiacis vel palide brunneis. Lamellae liberae, albae, confertae. Stipes 13.0–15.0×1.8–2.4 cm, subcylindricus, minutus surnsum, albidus, basim incrassatus. Anulus superus, albidus, membranaceus. Caro alba; sapor mitis. Basidia 30–38×11–15 μm, clavata, hyalina, 4-sporigera, raro 2-sporigera. Basidiosporae 14.0–16.0 (18.0)×(9.0) 9.5–10.5 (11.0) μm, ellipsioideae, glabrae, hyalinae, dextrinae. Pleurocystidia absentia. Cheilocystidia clavata, lato-clavata vel pyriformia, raro subfusiformia, hyalina, 18–38×7–15 μm. Squamulae pilei trichoderma, apicalis hyphis erectibus,
Clade 1 /volvatae

Leucoagaricus barssii AF295931

Leucoagaricus meleagris AF482867

Outgroup

Clade 2 /macrosorae

M. mastoidae U85313 (as "M. excoriata") France
M. mastoidae U85314 (as "M. gracilenta") France
M. mastoidae AF482844 Germany
M. mastoidae AV243599 (as "M. psammophila") France
M. mastoidae HM125529* China
M. mastoidae HM125530* China
M. mastoidae HM125531* China
M. mastoidae HM125532* China
M. mastoidae AV243604 Netherlands
M. konradi AV243603 Netherlands
M. konradi AV243602 Netherlands
M. konradi AV243601 Netherlands
M. psammophila AV243600 France
M. subquarrosa AV243605 Italy
M. orientexcoriatu AF482850 China
M. orientexcoriatu HM125524* China
M. orientexcoriatu HM125528* China
M. orientexcoriatu HM125525* China
M. orientexcoriatu HM125526* China
M. orientexcoriatu HM125527* China
M. phaeodesca AF482847 France
M. excoriata AV243607 France
M. excoriata AV243606 (as "M. heimii") United Kingdom
M. velosa AF482853 China
M. velosa HM125509* China
M. eucharis AF482854 Australia

Clade 3 /macrolepiota

M. dolichaula HM125518* China
M. dolichaula HM125521* China
M. dolichaula HM125523* China
M. dolichaula AV243588 Australia
M. dolichaula HM125515* China
M. dolichaula HM125516* China
M. dolichaula HM125517* China
M. dolichaula HM125519* China
M. dolichaula HM125520* China
M. dolichaula HM125522* China
M. sp AF482851 Japan
M. detresa HM125510* China
M. sp AV243586 Japan
M. sp AV243587 Japan

M. procera AV243590 France
M. procera AV243591 France
M. procera HM125511 Germany
M. procera HM125512 Germany
M. procera UB5310 Germany
M. procera AV243589 Netherlands
M. procera AV243588 Netherlands
M. aff. procera AV243591 Japan
M. procera HM125513* China
M. procera HM125514* China
M. sp AV243592 United States
M. sp AV243593 United States
M. sp AV243595 United States
M. sp AV243594 United States
M. fuliginosa AV243598 Netherlands
M. fuliginosa AV243597 Germany
M. fuliginosa AF482841 Netherlands
M. rhodosperma AV243596 United Kingdom
M. colombiana UB5311 Colombia
M. celandii AF482838 Australia
M. celandii AV083194 Australia
M. celandii AV083195 Australia
M. celandii AV083196 New Zealand
M. celandii AV083198 Australia
M. celandii AV083199 Australia
M. celandii AV083200 Australia
M. celandii AV083201 Australia
M. celandii AV083202 Australia
M. celandii AV083203 Australia
M. mastoida U85313 France
M. mastoida U85314 France
M. mastoida AV243599 France
M. mastoida AV243600 France
Luteis vel luteo-brunneis, subcylindricis compositae. Fibulae praesentes. Habitatio: terrestris.

Holotypus: C. L. Hou 603 (HKAS 55306), 2 Oct. 2007, Jingde County, Anhui Province, China.

Etymology: "detersa" refers to the easily detachable squamules on the pileus.

Basidiomata (Fig. 2a) medium-sized to large. Pileus 8–12 cm in diam., ovoid to hemispherical when young, becoming convex to plano-convex with age, white to whitish, covered with scattered, greyish orange (5B5-5B6, oac688 or oac729) to light brown (6C7-6D7, oac777) patch- or crust-like squamules which are easily detachable from the pileus; disc smooth, light brown (6C7-6D7, oac777). Lamellae free, moderately crowded, white when young, white to cream colored when mature, up to 1 cm in height, thin, with lamellulæ, sometimes with brown spots on the lamellae. Stipe whitish, subcylindrical, 13.0–15.0 × 1.8–2.4 cm, attenuating upwards, with tiny brownish to brown (oac721) squamules, hollow. Annulus ascending, whitish, membranous, complex, big, with brownish patchy squamules on the underside; movable when mature. Context white to whitish, spongy, unchanging when cut, odorless. Taste mild or indistinct.

Basidiospores (Fig. 2c) [48/2/1] 14.0–16.0 (18.0) × (9.0) 9.5–10.5 (11.0) μm, Q=(1.40) 1.43–1.67 (1.71), avQ=1.53±0.07, ellipsoid to ovoid in side view, ellipsoid in front view, thick-walled, smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyalinous cap in KOH; apiculus about 1 μm long. Basidia (Fig. 2d) 30–38 × 11–15 μm, clavate, thin-walled, hyaline, 4-spored, rarely 2-spored. Cheilocystidia (Fig. 2e) 18–38 × 7–15 μm, clavate to broadly clavate to pyriform, rarely subfusiform, colorless and hyaline, thin-walled. Pleurocystidia absent. Squamules on pileus (Fig. 2b) a palisade of vertically arranged subcylindric, clampsless hyphae [18–40 (55) μm in length, 7–13 (15) μm in diam.], frequently septate, rarely branched, with terminal elements slightly attenuate toward the tip, with
yellowish to brownish vacuolar pigment, slightly thick-walled. **Clamp connections** common at the base of basidia and cheilocystidia.

**Habitat and known distribution in China:** Terrestrial and saprotrrophic, solitary to scattered. Distributed in eastern China.

**Materials examined:** Anhui Province: Jingde County, Zaooyuan, bamboo forest, 2 Oct. 2007, C. L. Hou 603 (HKAS 55306, holotype).

**Comments:** *Macrolepiota detersa* is a good edible species. It is strikingly characterized by the combination of scattered, reflected, patch- or crust-like, easily detachable, brown squamules on the white pileal background, a relatively big membranous annulus, and easily detachable, brown squamules on the white pileal background.

*Macrolepiota detersa* is very similar to *M. procera* in morphology. However, *M. procera* has smaller plate-like squamules on pileus which are more closely attached to the pileus, and the stipitipellis of *M. procera* has conspicuous contrasting dark brown squamules compared with those of *M. detersa*. Microscopically, the cheilocystidia of *M. procera* are mainly clavate to utriform, and hyphal segments in the squamules on pileus of *M. detersa* are longer (25–90×7–14 μm) than those of *M. detersa* (15–25×7–11 μm). Phylogenetically, a close relationship with *M. dolichaula*, not with *M. procera*, was suggested based on ITS sequences data. Morphologically, *M. detersa* can easily be separated from *M. dolichaula* by forming plate-like pileus squamules, and the squamules, made up of short, rarely branched filamentous hyphae. *Macrolepiota detersa* is also known from Japan based on DNA sequence data (Fig. 1), and probably occurs in other East Asian countries.

*Macrolepiota prominens* (Viv.: Fr.) M.M. Moser (in the *M. mastoidea* complex), originally described from Europe, comes close but differs in a protruding umbo on the pileus, a simple broad annulus, and lamellae edges which become black with age (Wasser 1993).

*Macrolepiota dolichaula* (Berk. & Broome) Pegler & Rayner in Kew Bull. 23: 365. 1969.

*Agaricus dolichaulus* Berk. & Broome in Trans. Linn. Soc. London. 27: 150. 1871 (‘1870’).

*Leucoporus dolichulus* (Berk. & Broome) Pat. in Bull. trimest. Soc. mycol. Fr. 29: 215. 1913.

*Leucoporus dolichulus* (Berk. & Broome) Boedijn in Sydowia 5: 221. 1951.

*Leucoporus dolichulus* var. crypotcycrus Pat. in Bull. trimest. Soc. mycol. Fr. 29: 215. 1913.

*Agaricus beckeri* Berk. in J. linn. Soc. 13: 156. 1872.

*Leucoporus beckeri* (Berk.) Sacc., Syll. Fung. 5: 56. 1887.

*Agaricus stenophyllus* Cooke & Massee in Grevillea 15: 98. 1887.

*Lepiota stenophylla* (Cooke & Massee) Sacc. in Syll. Fung. 9: 4. 1891.

**Basidiomata** (Fig. 3a) medium-sized to large. **Pileus** 6–16 cm in diam., fleshy, campanulate when young, become convex to plano-convex with age, with a low umbo at disc, white to whitish, covered with yellow brownish to brownish granular squamules, which become minute and sparse toward margin; disc smooth, yellow brown to brown; margin down-reflexed, appendiculate, sometimes inconspicuously short striate. **Lamellae** free, crowded, with short lamellulae, white when young, white to cream colored when mature, off white to cream when dried, at times hay colored after years of deposit. **Stipe** white to whitish, subcylindrical, 7–24×0.8–2.5 cm, attenuating upwards, with minute farinose granules; base slightly enlarged; hollow. **Annulus** ascending, simple, whitish, membranous. **Context** whitish, sometimes becoming orange at the base of the stipe when cut. **Taste** mild.

**Basidiospores** (Fig. 3c) [69/3/3] (10.0) 12.5–16.0 × (6.5) 8.0–10.5 (12.0) μm (x=13.95±1.23×9.26±0.99 μm), Q= (1.29) 1.30–1.67 (1.94), avQ=1.51±0.13, ovoid to ellipsoid in side view, ellipsoidal in front view, thick-walled (about 0.5 μm), smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyalinal cap in KOH; apiculus 1–1.5 μm long. **Basidia** (Fig. 3d) 28–33×12–16 μm, clavate, thin-walled, hyaline, 4-spored; sterigmata up to 4.5 μm long. **Cheilocystidia** (Fig. 3e) 20–33×11–15 μm, clavate to broadly clavate, hyaline, thin-walled. **Pleurocystidia** absent. **Squamules on pileus** (Fig. 3b) a palisade of short, frequently branched, subcylindrical, clampless hyphae with terminal elements subcylindrical to subfusciform, 6–15 μm in diam., hyaline or with yellowish vacuolar pigment, thin-walled to slightly thick-walled. **Clamp connections** common at the base of basidia and cheilocystidia, but rare elsewhere.

**Habitat and known distribution in China:** Terrestrial and saprotrrophic, solitary to scattered on the ground in mixed forests or on road sides. Distributed in southern and southwestern China.

**Materials examined:** Fujian Province: Fuzhou City, Apr. 1934, S. Q. Deng 2473 (BPI 752291). Guangdong Province: Yangchun County, alt. 400 m, 19 May 1987, Z. S. Bi 11703 (GDGM 11703); Nan’ao County, Huanghua M., alt. 150–200 m, 12 Sept. 1986, Z. S. Bi and G. Y. Zheng 10789 (GDGM 10789); Boluo County, Luofu Mt., alt. 140 m, Z. S. Bi and G. Y. Zheng 10789 (GDGM 11957, as *M. procera* in Bi et al. 1994). Hainan Province: Ledong County, Jianfenglin, alt. 201 m, 4 Aug. 1999, P. Q. Sun 4277 [HKAS 34692, as *M. rhacodes* (Vittad.) Singer, synonym of *Chlorophyllum rachodes* (Vittad.) Vellinga, in Yuan and Sun 2007]; Ledong County, Fanyangang, 11 June 1936, X. X. Liu 28414 (HAMAS 24977); Ledong County, 12
June 1936, X. X. Liu 28415 [HMAS 22675 (M)]; Yeda Tropical Crops Research Institute, 26 May 1960, J. H. Yu and R. Liu 1402 [HMAS 29852 (M)]; Yeda Tropical Crops Research Institute, 28 May 1960, J. H. Yu and R. Liu 1461 [HMAS 29851 (M)]; Qiongzhong County, Limu Mt., 6 July 1960, J. H. Yu and R. Liu 1761 [HMAS 28817 (S)]; Lingshui County, Diaoluo Mt., 28 Oct. 1987, GDGM 14161 [as *Macrolepiota procera* (Scop.: Fr.) Singer in Bi et al. 1997]; Lingshui County, Diaoluo Mt., 27 Mar. 1989, GDGM 15514 (as *M. procera* in Bi et al. 1997). **Sichuan Province:** Xichang City, 4 July 1971, X. L. Mao and Q. M. Ma 129 [HMAS 36880 (S), as *M. gracilenta* (Krombh.) Wasser in Ying et al. 1994, as *Leptiotraca gracilenta* (Krombh.) Quél. in Ying and Zang 1994]; Kangding County, Gongga Mt., alt. 2800 m, under *Picea* and *Betula*, 17 July 1982, Y. Xuan (HKAS 9751); Miyi County, 27 July 1986, M. S. Yuan 1186 (HKAS 18396, as *M. procera* in Yuan and Sun 2007). **Tibet (Xizang Autonomous Region):** Médog (Motuo) County, alt. 850 m, 2 Aug. 1983, X. L. Mao M1160 [HMAS 52719 (S), as *M. procera* in Mao 1995];
Macrolepiota dolichaula was originally described from Sri Lanka and later also found in China (Chiu 1948), east Africa (Pegler 1977), Australia (Grgrurinovic 1997), and Vietnam (Yang 2000), and northern Thailand (pers. obs.). It is considered an edible mushroom in China. Macrolepiota dolichaula is the most frequently found species in southern and southwestern China, but often misidentified as M. procera, M. mastoidea, M. permixta (Barla) Pacioni, or Chl. rachodes (Vittad.) Vellinga. In fact, M. procera is much browner, has a stipe with brown squamules, a pileus with plate-like squamules made up of a trichodermal layer of yellowish-brown walled hyphae which seldom branch, and larger spores; M. mastoidea usually has relatively small basidiomata, irregularly patchy or sometimes star-shaped pileal squamules, a subtle banded pattern covering of the stipe, and the rare presence of clamp connections on the base of the basidia. Macrolepiota permixta, regarded as a variety of M. procera by some authors, differs from M. dolichaula by big, plate-like squamules on the pileus, a stipe context that turns wine-red to orange-red when scratched or cut (Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995). It might be a color variant of M. dolichaula by big, plate-like squamules on the pileus, a stipe context that turns wine-red to orange-red when scratched or cut (Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995). It might be a color variant of M. dolichaula by big, plate-like squamules on the pileus, a stipe context that turns wine-red to orange-red when scratched or cut (Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995). It might be a color variant of M. dolichaula by big, plate-like squamules on the pileus, a stipe context that turns wine-red to orange-red when scratched or cut (Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995). It might be a color variant of M. dolichaula by big, plate-like squamules on the pileus, a stipe context that turns wine-red to orange-red when scratched or cut (Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995).
Leucocoprinus mastoideus (Fr. : Fr.) Locq. in Bull. mens. Soc. linn. Lyon 14: 46. 1945.

**Basidiomata** (Fig. 4a) medium-sized to large. **Pileus** 5–11 cm in diam., fleshy, ovoid when young, becoming convex to plano-convex when mature, with a distinct umbo at disc, white to off-white, covered with grey-brownish furfuraceous squamules, which are at first smooth and continuous, then gradually break up into irregular patches, and become minute and sparse toward margin; margin slightly appendiculate. **Lamellae** free, crowded, white to greyish white, with lamellulae of 2–3 lengths. **Stipe** subcylindrical, 6–15×0.5–1.0 cm, attenuating upwards, whitish, covered with tiny furfuraceous brownish squamules, especially above the annulus; base slightly enlarged. **Annulus** ascending, simple, whitish, membranous. **Context** whitish, not changing color when cut. **Taste** mild.

**Basidiospores** (Fig. 4c) [41/2/2] (11.0) 12.0–14.0 (15.0)×8.0–9.5 (10.0) μm, \(x=12.95 \pm 0.84 \times 8.69 \pm 0.60 \mu m\), \(Q=(1.33) 1.38–1.63 (1.65)\), \(avQ=1.49 \pm 0.09\), ellipsoid to ovoid in side view, ellipsoid in front view, thick-walled, smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyaline cap in KOH; apiculus 1–1.5 μm

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**Fig. 4** Macrolepiota mastoidea (HKAS 11084) a. Basidiomata; b. Squamules on pileus; c. Basidiospores; d. Basidia; e. Cheilocystidia
long. **Basidia** (Fig. 4d) 32–44×12.0–14.0 μm, clavate, thin-walled, hyaline, 4-spored. **Cheilocystidia** (Fig. 4e) (10) 15–20×7–10 μm, clavate, hyaline, thin-walled, in bunches forming a sterile edge. **Pleurocystidia** absent. **Squamules on pileus** (Fig. 4b) a palisade of subcylindric, clampless hyphae (6–12 μm in diam.), with terminal elements slightly attenuate toward the tip, with yellowish to brownish vascular pigment, slightly thick-walled. **Clamp connections** occasionally observed at the base of basidia.

**Habitat and known distribution in China:** Terrestrial and saprotrophic, solitary to scattered in open meadows or in mixed forests. Distributed in northeastern and southwestern China.

**Materials examined:** **Heilongjiang Province:** Yichun City, Beishan, alt. 400 m, 8 Aug. 2000, M. S. Yuan 4646 (HKAS 37384); Huma County, 29 July 2000, X.L. Mao, H. A. Wen and S.X. Sun 120 (HMAS 76557, determined as *Macrolepiota crustosa* L.P. Shao & C.T. Xiang by Mao). **Jilin Province:** Antu County, Baima town, alt. 740 m, 17 Aug. 2004, L. F. Zhang 605 (HKAS 11084); Antu County, Jinyuetan Park, alt. 220 m, 29 Sept. 2004, L. F. Zhang 628 (HKAS 11207); Dunhua City, Huangnihe, 5 Sept. 2004, X. H. Wang 2016 (HKAS 50914). **Sichuan Province:** Chengdu City, 30 Sept. 2006, Z. W. Ge 938 (HKAS 51950).

**Comments:** *Macrolepiota mastoidea* is an edible species. Macroscopically, it differs from the other Chinese species of *Macrolepiota* by its distinctive umbonate pileus covered with grey-brownish velvet squamules which are irregularly arranged or star-shaped, and its slender stipe covered with brownish squamules. Microscopically, it is characterized by the combination of its clavate cheilocystidia, and pileal squamules made up of a palisade of rarely branched, subcylindric, clampless hyphae.

*Macrolepiota mastoidea* is very close to *M. excoriata* (Schaeff.) Wasser, but the latter has a smooth stipe and more common clamp connections on the sepal of the basidia (Wasser 1993; Vellinga 2001).

*Macrolepiota mastoidea* is a complex of species with different morphologies, but with very small differences in ITS (Fig. 1). Now it is shown to be present in Asia as well.

*Macrolepiota mastoidea* was previously recorded in China, but re-examination confirmed that some collections were misidentified. E.g. HMAS 28232 was cited as *M. mastoidea* (*M. gracilenta*) (Ying et al. 1994), but is actually *Lepiota clypeolaria* (Bull.) P. Kumm.

**Macrolepiota orientexcoriata** Z. W. Ge, Zhu. L. Yang & Vellinga, sp. nov. Fig. 5

MycoBank: MB 518350

Pileus 8–12 cm diametro, convexus vel planatus, albus vel albidus, squamulis furfuraceis, luteo-brunneis vel brunneis-aurantiaceis, obtuse umbonatus. Lamellae liberae, albae, angustae. Stipes 9.0–11.0×1.0–2.0 cm, subcylindricus, minutus sursurum, albidus, basim incrassatus, non-discolorans. Annulus superus, albidus, membranaceus. Caro alba; sapor mitis. Basidia 35–52×13–16 μm, clavata, hyalina, 4-sporigera, raro 2-sporigera. Basidiosporae (12.0) 13.0–15.0 (16.0)× (7.5) 8.5–10.0 (10.5) μm, ellipsoidaeae, glabrae, hyalinae, dextrinoideae. Pleurocystidia absentia. Cheilocystidia obtusifusiformia vel subclavata, raro subcylindrica vel vesiculosa, hyalina, 20–43×9–15 μm. Squamulae pilei trichoderma, apicalis hypus erectibus, subhyalinus vel luteo-brunneis, subcylindricis compositae. Fibulae praeentes. Habitat: terrestres.

**Holotypus:** Z. W. Ge 96 (HKAS 45863), 12 July 2004, Xiangcheng County, Sichuan Province, China.

**Etymology:** “orienti-” refers to the locality of the type specimens collected; “excoriata” refers to the squamules of the pileus.

**Basidiomata** (Fig. 5a) medium to large-sized. **Pileus** 8–12 cm in diam., white to whitish, convex to plano-convex, sometimes with slightly reflexed margin, with a low umbo at disc, covered with brownish yellow (5C8, oac687) furfuraceous squamules, which become minute and sparse toward margin, revealing white flesh between them; disc smooth, brownish orange (6C7, oac719). **Lamellae** free, moderately crowded, white when young, white to cream colored when mature, sometimes slightly with pinkish tinge, thin, with lamellulae. **Stipe** whitish, subcylindric, 9–11×1.0–2.0 cm, gradually attenuating upwards, glabrous or with shiny hairs, hollow; base slightly enlarged to subglobose, 3.5–4.0 cm wide. **Annulus** ascending, whitish, membranous, slightly complex, with brownish patchy squamules on the underside. **Context** white to whitish, spongy, unchanging color when cut, but at edge of stipe slightly with wine red tinge, odorless. **Taste** mild or indistinct.

**Basidiospores** (Fig. 5c) [136/8/6] (12.0) 13.0–15.0 (16.0)× (7.5) 8.5–10.0 (10.5) μm, Q=(1.38) 1.40–1.63 (1.67), avQ=1.50±0.08, ellipsoid to ovoid in side view, ellipsoid in front view, thick-walled, smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyalineous cap in KOH; apiculus not distinctive, about 1 μm long. **Basidia** (Fig. 5d) 35–52×13–16 μm, clavate, thin-walled, hyaline, 4-spored rarely 2-spored. **Cheilocystidia** (Fig. 5e) 20–43×9.5–15 μm, obtusely fusiform to subclavate in most cases, occasionally subcylindric to vesiculose, hyaline, thin-walled, in bunches forming a sterile edge. **Pleurocystidia** absent. **Squamules on pileus** (Fig. 5b) a palisade of subcylindric, clampless hyphae (20–65 μm in length, 5–10 μm in diam.), seldomly branched, with terminal elements slightly attenuate toward the tip, with yellowish to brownish vascular pigment, slightly thick-walled.
Clamp connections common at the base of basidia and cheilocystidia.

Habitat and known distribution in China: Terrestrial and saprotrophic, solitary to scattered in open meadows or under bushes. Distributed in northern and southwestern China (Inner Mongolia and Sichuan).

Materials examined: Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region: Wulanchabu (Ulanqab) City, alt. 1590 m, 1 Aug. 1990, P. G. Liu 623 (HKAS 23040); Aug. 1994, X. L. Mao 8111 [HMAS 63157 (M); Aug. 1994, X. L. Mao 8116 [HMAS 73304 (M); Sichuan Province: Xiangcheng County, alt. 3000 m, 12 July 2004, Z. W. Ge 96 (HKAS 45863, holotype); Xiangcheng County, shagong, alt. 3000 m, 11 July 1998, Z. L. Yang 2286 (HKAS 32153); on the way from JiuLong County to Mianning County, 16 July 2005, Z. W. Ge 505 (HKAS 49001).

Comments: Macrolepiota orientiexcoriata is characterized by the combination of brownish to reddish-brown furfuraceous squamules composed of a palisade of sub-cylindric, seldomly branched, clampless hyphae, and the obtusely fusiform to subclavate cheilocystidia.

Macrolepiota orientiexcoriata is very close to M. excoriata (Schaeff.) Wasser both morphologically and molecularly. However, M. excoriata has a pileus with an indistinct umbo, the pileal squamules are more often star-shaped, and the stipe is smooth (Candusso and Lanzoni 1990; Breitenbach and Kränzlin 1995; Vellinga 2001). Microscopically, cheilocystidia of M. excoriata are more often narrowly clavate to subcylindric (Wasser 1993; Vellinga 2001). The ITS data separate the two taxa, with M. orientiexcoriata in its own clade separate from M. excoriata (Fig. 1).

Macrolepiota phaeodisca Bellù, which is sister to M. orientiexcoriata in the phylogenetic tree, originally described from the Mediterranean region (Sardinia, Italy), grows in sandy environment, differs in the dark squamules-fibrillose pileus, and lack of clamp connections (Bellù 1984). Macrolepiota orientiexcoriata is also very similar to
M. mastoidea. However, the latter has a distinctive umbonate pileus covered with grey-brownish velvet squamules which are irregularly arranged or star-shaped, and its slender stipe covered with pale brownish squamules. *Chlorophyllum neomastoideum* (Hongo) Vellinga, originally described from Japan, is somewhat similar, but it differs from *M. orientiexcoriata* by the reddening of the flesh when cut, vesicular to clavate cheilocystidia, smaller 7–8.5×4.5–6 μm and truncate spores (Hongo 1970).

**Macrolepiota procura** (Scop. : Fr.) Singer in Papers Mich. Acad. Sci., Arts Letters 32: 141. 1948 (‘1946’).

*Agaricus procerus* Scop., Fl. Carn. 2: 418. 1772.

*Agaricus procerus* Scop. : Fr., Syst. Mycol. 1: 20. 1821.

*Leptiotrophium procerum* (Scop. : Fr.) S.F. Gray, Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl. 1: 601. 1821.

*Mastocephalus procerus* (Scop. : Fr.) O. Kuntze, Rev. Gen. Pl. 2: 1860. 1891.

*Leucocoprinus procerus* (Scop. : Fr.) Pat., Essai Taxon. Hymen.: 171. 1900.

*Leptiotrophium procerum* (Scop. : Fr.) Locq. in Bull. mens. Soc. linn. Lyon 11: 40. 1942.

**Basidiomata** (Fig. 6a) medium to large-sized. *Pileus* 7–25 cm in diam., ovoid to drum stick shaped when young, becoming convex to plano-convex with age, with an obtuse umbo at disc, white to whitish, covered with brown, dark brown to grayish brown plate-like squamules; disc smooth, brown; covering disrupting into small plate-like squamules which are irregularly arranged toward margin on the dirty white background. *Lamellae* free, densely crowded, thin, white when young, white to cream colored when mature, with lamellulae in 2–3 lengths. *Stipe* whitish, subcylindrical, 18.0–34×1.0–2.2 cm, attenuating upwards, at base enlarged (3.5–4.0 cm), covered with brown to dark brown velvet squamules sometimes in irregular bands, hollow or fibrous-stuffed. *Annulus* superior, about 5 cm below stipe apex, dirty white above, underside brownish, membranous, complex, moveable. **Context** spongy, white to cream at the pileus, grayish red to purplish brown at the stipe; not changing color. **Smell** not recorded. **Taste** mild.

**Basidiospores** (Fig. 6c) [64/4/4] (12.0) 13.0–16.0 (19.0)×8.0–10.0 (12.0) μm, Q=(1.35) 1.40–1.63 (1.65), avQ=1.50±0.07, ellipsoid to ovoid in side view, ellipsoid in front view, thick-walled, smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyaline cap in KOH; apiculus not distinctive. **Basidia** (Fig. 6d) 30–43×12–17 μm, clavate, thin-walled, hyaline, 4-spored. **Cheilocystidia** (Fig. 6e) 20–39×10–23 μm, clavate to utriform to irregularly clavate, hyaline, thin-walled, in bunches forming a sterile edge. **Pleurocystidia** absent. **Squamules on pileus** (Fig. 6b) a palisade of subcylindric, slightly thick-walled, clamped hyphae which are 7–11 (14) μm in diam., seldom branched, with terminal elements slightly attenuate toward the tip, with yellowish brown vacuolar pigments, slightly thick-walled. **Clamp connections** common at the base of basidia and cheilocystidia.

**Habitat and known distribution in China:** Terrestrial and saprotrophic; solitary to scattered on edge of the forest or in the forest dominated by coniferous and Fagaceous trees. Distributed in northeastern and eastern China (Heilongjiang, Jilin, Shandong, Jiangsu and Guangdong).

Specimens examined: **Guangdong Province:** Changjiang County, Bawangling, GDGM 11851; **Heilongjiang Province:** Hulin City, Dongfanghong natural reserve, 19 Sept. 2004, Tolgor 2702 (HMJAU 2702). **Jilin Province:** Fusong County, Songjianghe, alt. 1300 m, 12 Aug. 2000, M. S. Yuan 4659 (HKAS 37383); Yanbian Chosenzu Zizhizhou, Baihe, alt. 840 m, 15 Aug. 2004, L. F. Zhang 517 (HKAS 8108); Fusong County, Lushuihe, alt. 625 m, 11 Aug. 2004, L. F. Zhang 381 (HKAS 5722). **Shandong Province:** 26 Aug. 1980, H. A. Wen and Y. C. Zong 10 [HMAS 42757 (M)]. **Jiangan Province:** Nanjing City, 21 June 1931, S. Q. Teng 490 (BPI 75231).

Comments: *Macrolepiota procura* is an edible species. Morphologically, it is characterized by the big, fleshy basidiomata, the stipe covered with zig-zag banded squamules, and the squamules on pileus composed of a palisade of subcylindric, slightly thick-walled, clamped brown hyphae.

*Macrolepiota fuliginosa* (Barla) M. Bon and *M. permixta* (Barla) Pacioni are two closely related species. But *M. fuliginosa* has grayish brown basidiomata, and *M. permixta* red-brown basidiomata (Bon 1996; Candusso and Lanzoni 1990; Vellinga 2001).

According to the ITS tree, the East Asian collections differ from those of Europe; this may indicate that collections from East Asia and those from Europe represent different phylogenetic species. As we have not found discernable morphological characters to separate them, we continue to recognize the East Asian collections as *M. procura*.

**Macrolepiota velosa** Vellinga & Zhu L. Yang in Mycotaxon 85: 184. 2003.

**Basidiomata** (Fig. 7a) medium to large-sized. *Pileus* 7–9 cm in diam., plano-convex, with a wide indistinct umbo, purplish to pale brownish or grey with purplish tinge, fibrillose, covered with brown to dark brown furfuraceous squamules; disc smooth, dark brown. Sometimes with white to dirty white membranous volval remnants as patches on the surface. *Lamellae* free, remote from the stipe, moderately crowded, white to cream colored, with whitish cystidiose edge. *Stipe* brownish to purplish brown, cylindrical, 10–17×0.4–1.0 cm, attenuating and paler upwards, with fine fibrils or squamules, hollow; base slightly enlarged up to 1.3 cm. *Annulus* ascending, whitish.
on upperside with brown rim, and brownish underside, membranous. Volva limbate, white, membranous. **Context** white, with pinkish to brownish tinge both in pileus and stipe, odorless. Smell indistinct. **Taste** mild or indistinct.

**Basidiospores** (Fig. 7c) [145/6/6] (8.0) 9.0–11.0 (11.5)× (5.5) 6.0–7.5 (8.0) μm, Q=(1.2)1.36–1.5 (1.62), avQ=1.42±0.06, amygdaloid-ellipsoid in side view, ellipsoid in front view, thick-walled, smooth, hyaline, dextrinoid, congophilous, metachromatic in cresyl blue, with a germ pore caused by an interruption in the episporium on the rounded apex, covered with a hyalinous cap in KOH, apiculus not distinctive, about 1 μm long. **Basidia** (Fig. 7d) 25–30×9.5–11.5 μm, clavate, 4-spored, without clamp connections. **Cheilocystidia** (Fig. 7e) 44–68×4.5–7.5 μm, cylindrical, some slightly widened at apex, with rounded apex, with grayish granular contents, and refractive patch at apex, thin-walled, forming a sterile edge. **Pleurocystidia** absent. **Squamules on pileus** (Fig. 7b) a palisade of ellipsoid to subglobose, clampless elements (20–65 μm in length, 5–10 μm in diam.) in chains, rarely branched, with clavate to narrowly clavate terminal elements (up to 100×25 μm), slightly thick-walled, brownish, interspersed with some cylindrical hyphae 5–10 μm wide. **Velar patches** made up of hyaline, non-colored, cylindrical narrow hyphae about 2–4 μm. **Clamp connections** not observed at the base of basidia, cheilocystidia.

**Habitat and known distribution in China:** Terrestrial and saprotrophic, solitary to scattered on the ground in mixed forest. So far only found in Yunnan and Hainan.

**Materials examined:** **Yunnan Province:** Jinhong City, Damenglong, alt. 650 m, 14 Aug. 1995, Z. L. Yang 2172 (HKAS 29487); Mengla County, Menglin Natural Reserve, alt. 700–800 m, 2 Sept. 1990, Z. L. Yang 1271 (HKAS 23312); Mengla County, Menglin Nature Reserve, alt. 580 m, 12 Aug. 1988, Z. L. Yang 381 (HKAS 21808); Mengla County, Menglin, Botanical Garden, alt. 580 m, 12 Oct. 1989, Z. L. Yang 767 (HKAS 22131). **Hainan Province:** Changjiang County, Bawangling Nature Re-
serve, alt. 680 m, 19 Aug. 2009, N. K. Zeng 518 (HKAS 58050); same locality, alt. 693 m, 23 Aug. 2009, N. K. Zeng 562 (HKAS 58051).

Comments: The distinctive characters of *M. velosa* are the basidiomata with a volva at the base of the stipe, sometimes with white to whitish volval remnant patches on the pileus; small basidiospores and the squamules made up of ellipsoid to subglobose brown-walled elements in chains interspersed with some brown filamentous hyphae.

Comparing to other *Macrolepiota* species with a volva, *M. pulchella* de Meijer & Vellinga from Brazil differs from *M. velosa* by longer basidiospores (10.0–14.5 × 6.0–7.5 μm).
7.5 μm), shorter cheilocystidia (23–42 μm), and the squamules made up of clavate elements and long, colorless emerging hyphae; *M. eucharis* Vellinga & Halling from Australia differs in larger basidiospores (10.8–15.5×7.0–9.0 μm), wider and shorter cheilocystidia (25–53×5.0–12.0 μm), and squamules lacking ellipsoid to globose or clavate elements. *Macroolepiota brunescens* Vellinga, also from South America, has velar patches on the pileus, but becomes brown in all part. *Macroolepiota clelandii* Grgr. superficially resembles *M. velosa*, but differs from the latter by the absence of a volva at the base of the stipe, the predominantly 2-spored basidia, and much bigger spores up to 28.5×15.5 μm (Vellinga 2003).

*M. velosa* is also known from northern Thailand; its edibility remains unknown.

Doubtful species and taxa recorded from China but with uncertainty

*Macroolepiota crustosa* L.P. Shao & C.T. Xiang in Journal of North-eastern Forestry Institute 8 (4): 36. 1980.

The original description reads:

“Fructificatio solitarius vel gregarius; pileus 6–13, cm. latus, carnosus, mollis e globoso demum explanatus vel depressus, centro mamillis, crustis albo-cinerus vestitus, centro demum fuligineus, lobo frastoso, peripheria facile exutus, exer albo-caro, polygonalis, fibrillosis; caro alba, fracta demum lutescens, inodora, sapore grato; stipes cavus, levis, albo-griseus, bulbo amplissimo, 17–22 cm. longus, 8–11 mm. crassus; annulus mobolis, fibroso-lacerus; lamellae distantes, latae albae, fractae incarnatae; sporae ovoideo-ellipsoidae, chlorino-hyalinae, 11–14.5×6–8 μ; basidia cylindraceo-clavata, 34–44×10–11.9 μ.—Esculenta.

Hab: Heilongjiang, Dai-ling, ad terram in pinelis, 18, VIII, 1974, Shao Li-ping, Siang Cun-ti, no. 74210 (Typus)

Obs: Species *Macroolepiotae procerae* et *Macroolepiotae rachodese* affinis, a priore stipes minute squamis differt, a posteriore carne aere rubescente et in centro pileo emamilae, sapore parum grato facile dignoscendo differ.”

**Comment:** According to the description and the habit depicted in Fig. 2 in Shao et Siang (1980), *M. crustosa* is more similar to *M. mastoidea* than to *M. procera*, but “the smooth stipe and the white context changes yellow” reminds us of a *Chlorophyllum* species. HMAS 76557, collected from Huma in Heilongjiang province and deternained by X. L. Mao as *M. crustosa*, turned out to be a misidentification of *M. mastoidea*. Because the type of *M. crustosa* is lost, its taxonomic uncertainty remains.

*Macroolepiota prominens* (Viv. : Fr.) M.M. Moser, in Gams, Kleine Kryptogamenflora, Edn 3 (Stuttgart) 2b/2: 184. 1967

*Macroolepiota prominens*, clearly belongs to the *M. mastoidea* group, is characterized by a conspicuous protruding umbo on the pileus, a simple broad annulus, and lamellae edges which become black with age (Wasser 1993). Teng (1996) and Mao (2000) recorded this species for China. As there is no specimens cited, and no specimens examined fit with characters mentioned above, voucher specimens for this species still need to be found or collected.

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Key to the recognized species of *Macroolepiota* from China

1 Basidiomata with a volva at the base of the stipe
   *M. velosa*

1* Basidiomata without a volva at the base of the stipe

   2 Pileus surface with brown plate-like squamules; annulus complex; clamp connections common at the base of the basidia

   3 Stipe surface with conspicuous fine brown squamules on whitish background; pileus squamules made up of yellowish-brown walled long hyphal segments, mainly 25–90×7–11 (14) μ

       *M. procera*

   3* Stipe surface with fine brown squamules on whitish background; pileus squamules made up of yellowish-brown walled short hyphal segments, mainly 15–25×7–11 μ

       *M. detersa*

2* Pileus surface with pale ochraceous to brown fine squamules; annulus simple, or only slightly thicker near the edge; clamp connections absent or present

   4 Stipe surface with brown squamules; usually without clamps at the base of basidia

       *M. mastoidea*

4* Stipe surface smooth; usually with clamps at the base of basidia
Discussion

New species within *Macrolepiota* and species diversity in China

As shown in Fig. 1, *M. detersa* is phylogenetically closely related to, but distinct from *M. dolichaula* and *M. procera* based on the ITS data. Similarly, *M. orientiexcoriata* is phylogenetically closely related to *M. excoriata*, *M. mastoidea*, and *M. phaeodisca*, but forms a clade of its own. As both *M. detersa* and *M. orientiexcoriata* have discrete characters to tell them apart from the currently described species, we described them as new species in this paper.

In addition, the result that *M. detersa* clustered with 3 collections of *M. sp.* from Japan, which as a whole gets strong statistical supports, 100% of bootstrap and 1.00 bayesian PP support respectively, indicates that the three Japanese collections are *M. detersa* (Fig. 1).

By far, Europe is the species richest region of *Macrolepiota*, with 11 species in the current sense recorded (Candusso and Lanzoni 1990; Vellinga 2001; but numbers depend on species concepts), then followed by Asia with 9 species recorded (Manjula 1983; Pegler 1986; Shao and Xiang 1981; Teng 1996; Vellinga and Yang 2003), and 4 species in east Africa (Pegler 1977), and 3 species in Australia (Grgrurinovic 1997; Vellinga 2003). Based on our present results, at least 6 morphological species were found in China, with representatives belonging to three different phylogenetic clades recovered by the analyses of the ITS data set.

Morphological features of the major monophyletic clades within *Macrolepiota*

The monophyly of *Macrolepiota* shown here is in accordance with earlier findings based on ITS (Vellinga et al. 2003). Vellinga et al. (2003) detected similar major clades (Fig. 1 in their paper), however, only one of the clades containing *M. excoriata*, *M. mastoidea*, *M. "spec. nov. I"* (which is *M. orientiexcoriata*) and *M. phaeodisca* got bootstrap support. In our present study, two of the three clades recovered by the ITS data set got strong bootstrap and Bayesian post probability supports. The separation of the three clades is supported by morphological characters and will be discussed as following:

/volvatae clade (Clade 1) is characterized by species having a volva at the base of the stipe, finely squamulous stipe surfaces, relatively small (usually less than 15 μm) amygdaliform-ellipsoid spores, and no clamp connections at the base of the cheilocystidia and basidia. Species of this clade so far are mainly distributed in tropical regions (Vellinga 2003; Vellinga and Yang 2003).

/macrosporae clade (Clade 2) is characterized by a smooth stipe, a simple annulus and rare clamp connections. In contrast to those in /macrolepiota clade, species within this clade do not have big plate-like squamules on pileus, but furfuraceous fine squamules composed of a single layer with rarely branched, pale brownish and thin-walled cylindrical hyphae.

/macrolepiota clade (Clade 3) is characterized by having a complex annulus, relatively big (usually 14–20 μm) ovoid-ellipsoid spores, with a common presence of clamp connections at the base of the cheilocystidia and basidia, stipe usually 2-3 time the pileus diameter (Bon 1996), and the cheilocystidia are mainly broadly clavate. The stipes usually have fine brown squamules, but *M. dolichaula* and *M. clelandii* have farinose stipe surfaces. The pileus covering of species within this clade forms big-plate like squamules, and the squamules are composed of two layers with the terminal layer composed of seldom branched brownish and thick-walled cylindrical hyphae arising from a layer which is composed of thin-walled, often branched hyphae (but *M. dolichaula* is the exception here as well).

Infrageneric classification and systematic position of species with volva in *Macrolepiota*

In traditional taxonomic classifications, Singer partitioned *Macrolepiota* into two groups (section *Macrolepiota* and section *Macrosorae*) based on the presence or absence of clamp connections (Singer 1986). Bon (1996) divided the genus *Macrolepiota* into three sections by adding sect. *Laevistipedes* (Pázmány) Bon. Vellinga (2003) transferred...
the section *Laevistipedes* to the genus *Chlorophyllum*, and Vellinga and Yang (2003) synonymized *Volvolepiota* with *Macrolepiota* without discussion of the taxonomic positions of those species with a volva within the genus. In this study, our molecular phylogenetic analysis recovered three major clades with strong statistical support. This result and the corresponding morphological characters of each clade indicate that *Macrolepiota* could be divided into three sections. /macrolepiota clade and /macrosorae clade mainly correspond to the current infra-generic classification proposed by Bon (1996). Considering the species with a volva form a well-supported /volvatae clade (Clade 1), we propose a new section to accommodate the species with a volva within *Macrolepiota*.

*Macrolepiota sect. Volvatae* Z. W. Ge, Zhu L. Yang & Vellinga, sect. nov.

MycoBank: MB 518351

Stipes basi marginatus-bulbosus, volvatus, Basidiospora parvula, 15.5 μm minus. Fibuleae absentes.

Stipe with a volva at the base, annulus simple or only thickening at the edge of the annulus or only somewhat reflexed near the annulus margin, basidiospores less than 15.5 μm in length, clamp connections absent.

Type species: *Macrolepiota velosa* Vellinga & Zhu. L. Yang in Mycotaxon 85: 184 (2003).

Other species included in this section are *Macrolepiota pulchella* de Meijer & Vellinga, *M. eucharis* Vellinga & Halling and *M. brunnescens* Vellinga.

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