

Nomenclatural novelties : Boris Assyov, Jean-Michel Bellanger, Paul Bertéa, Régis Courtecuisse, Gerhard Koller, Michael Loizides, Guilhermina Marques, José Antonio Muñoz, Nicolò Oppicelli, Davide Puddu, Franck Richard & Pierre-Arthur Moreau

Imperator G. Koller, Assyov, Bellanger, Bertéa, Loizides, G. Marques, P.-A. Moreau, J.A. Muñoz, Oppicelli, Puddu & F. Richard, gen.nov.

IF550508

Habitus robustissimarum Boletacearum typicus. A gen. Rubroboletus differt pileo tacto caeruleo- dein nigro maculoso, contextum in stipites basi rubropurpureo. Stipes robustum, totaliter reticulato atque flavo-purpurascens. Pori minuti, primitus lutei vel rubri, tacto caerulescentibus. Caro compacta, odore fortis, flavo-sulphurea, virescens deunque fracta caerulescens; rubra stipite basi.

Holotype: *Boletus torosus* Fr. 1835.

Phylogenetic results based on ITS and 28S rDNA sequences reveal that the three species cited above belong to a monophyletic lineage, not characterized in earlier works (Nuhn et al. 2013, Fungal Biology 117: 479-511 ; Arora & Frank 2014, Mycologia 106(3): 464-480 ; Gelardi et al. 2014, Mycologia 106(6): 1168-1187 ; Simonini & Vizzini 2014 , Mycol. Progr. 13(1): 95-109 ; Wu et al. 2014, Fungal Diversity on line, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s13225-014-0283-8>; Wu et al. 2015, Fungal Diversity on line, DOI: 10.1007/s13225-015-0322-0). The three species identified in this clade are all European, known from broadleaved forests on calcareous soils. This group is characterized by a unique combination of features : yellow to reddish-orange reticulate stipe, staining dark purplish red from base with age, a typical blue to blackish staining on pileus surface when touched, and an intense blueing reaction of the context when cut. Pores are either yellow, red or purplish with a high chromatic variability of all parts of basidiome in *I. rhodopurpureus*. The taxonomic status of these variants, as well as of *Boletus xanthocyaneus* Romagn., requires further studies. Phylogenetic results supporting this publication (ITS and 28S ML phylogenetic trees) are accessible online at <http://boletales.com/phylogenetics/>. Acknowledgements : to Paul Pirot for verification of the Latin diagnosis, and to the members of the web forum Mediterranean Fungi, from which this project originated.

Etymology: Imperator (Lat., Emperor) in honour of the impressive and prestigious *Boletus torosus*, and its smaller but equally remarkable relatives.

Imperator luteocupreus (Bertéa & Estadès) Assyov, Bellanger, Bertéa, Courtec., Koller, Loizides, G. Marques, J.A. Muñoz, N. Oppicelli, D. Puddu, F. Rich. & P.-A. Moreau, comb.nov.

IF550510

Basionym: *Boletus luteocupreus* Bertéa & Estadès, *Docums Mycol.* **20**(no. 78): 10 (1990)

Imperator rhodopurpureus (Smotl.) Assyov, Bellanger, Bertéa, Courtec., Koller, Loizides, G. Marques, J.A. Muñoz, N. Oppicelli, D. Puddu, F. Rich. & P.-A. Moreau, comb.nov.

IF550511

Basionym: *Boletus rhodopurpureus* Smotl., *C.C.H.* **29**(1-3): 31 (1952)

Imperator torosus (Fr.) Assyov, Bellanger, Bertéa, Courtec., Koller, Loizides, G. Marques, J.A. Muñoz, N. Oppicelli, D. Puddu, F. Rich. & P.-A. Moreau, comb.nov.

IF550512

Basionym: *Boletus torosus* Fr., in Fries & Hök, *Boleti, Fungorum generis, illustratio*: 10 (1835)