

## Outlineoffungi.org - Note 658 *Crystallodon*

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### *Crystallodon* Alvarenga

*Crystallodon* is a monotypic genus of saprotrophic jelly fungi occurring on dead wood in forests of Central America (Panama) and South America (Brazil) ([Alvarenga et al. 2019](#)). *Crystallodon* was introduced to determine the correct generic position of *Heterochaete subgelatinosa* (Bodman 1952), the species originally described in the genus are widely considered as polyphyletic ([Alvarenga et al. 2019](#)). In the phylogenetic analysis (based on ITS and LSU sequences) presented by [Alvarenga & Gibertoni \(2021\)](#), *Crystallodon* formed a well-supported lineage sister to a clade composed of *Tremellochaete* and *Exidia* species. The type species is *Crystallodon subgelatinosum* ([Alvarenga & Gibertoni 2021](#)). The genus is characterized by resupinate, effused, gelatinous to crustaceous basidiomata, monomitic hyphal structure, hymenophore with sterile spines enclosed by abundant crystals, thin-walled hyphidia, four-celled and ellipsoid-ovoid basidia, and cylindrical to broadly cylindrical basidiospores ([Alvarenga & Gibertoni 2021](#)). The asexual morph is unknown. *Crystallodon* is currently placed in *Incertae sedis*, *Auriculariales*, *Auriculariomycetidae*, *Agaricomycetes*, *Agaricomycotina*, *Basidiomycota*. Further sampling and sequencing of additional genes (e.g. *rpb2*, *tefl*, *tub2*) are required to determine the placement of this genus at the family rank within *Auriculariales*.

### References

- Alvarenga RLM, Gibertoni TB. 2021 – *Crystallodon* Alvarenga gen. nov., a new genus of the *Auriculariales* from the Neotropics. *Cryptogamie Mycologie* 42(2), 17–24 <https://doi.org/10.5252/cryptogamie-mycologie2021v42a2>
- Alvarenga RLM, Spirin V, Malysheva V, Gibertoni TB, Larsson K-H. 2019 – Two new genera and six other novelties in *Heterochaete* sensu lato (*Auriculariales*, *Basidiomycota*). *Botany* 97, 439–451. <https://doi.org/10.1139/cjb-2019-0046>
- Bodman MC. 1952 – A taxonomic study of the genus *Heterochaete*. *Lloydia* 15, 193–233

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Published online 7 December 2022