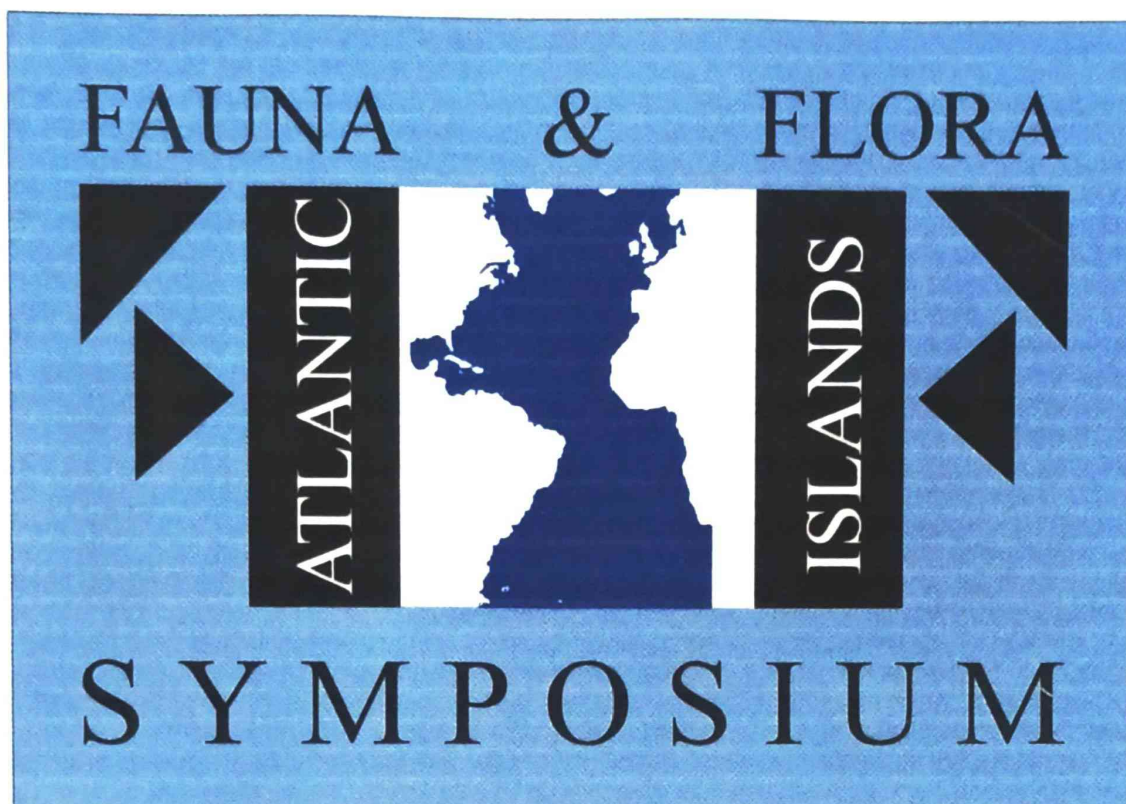


LIAGORA MADERENSIS AN ENDEMIC MARINE RED ALGA (NEMALIALES RHODOPHYTA) OF THE MACARONESIAN REGION.

Julio Afonso-Carrillo, Diana Kvaternik, Marta Sansón and Javier Reyes.

Departamento de Biología Vegetal (Botánica), Universidad de La Laguna, 38271
La Laguna, Islas Canarias.

Liagora maderensis was described by Kützing (1858) based on plants collected in Madeira and deposited in the Herbarium Sonder. It has not been reported since, and the name has often cited as a synonym for *L. ceranoides* Lamouroux or *L. valida* Harvey. The lectotype collection of *L. maderensis* is housed at L and consists of two small plants (to 32 mm long) that are dichotomously branched with wide angles. Anatomically, it presents medullary filaments 20-61 μm broad and rhizoidal filaments 6-12 μm broad; the cortical assimilatory filaments, 165-255 μm long and up to 7 times dichotomously branched, consist of cylindrical proximal cells becoming shorter upwards and ending in ovoid cells. Strongly curved four-celled carpogonial branches, c. 12 μm broad, arranged on the middle of the supporting cells, are evident in the type material. A compact mature carposporophyte examined is surrounded by a well developed involucre and measures c. 300 μm in diameter in surface view. Spermatangia were not observed. Plants recently collected in the Canary islands are in close agreement with the type material. The lectotype specimens differ remarkably from *L. valida* and *L. ceranoides* in having broader medullary filaments, a strongly curved carpogonial branch and a compact gonimoblast surrounded by a conspicuous involucre. In habit, *L. maderensis* is close to some small specimens of *L. viscida* (Forsskål) C. Agardh but is differentiated anatomically by the longer assimilatory filaments, the strongly curved carpogonial branch and the compact carposporophyte. Recent collections from Azores housed at L and identified as *L. divaricata* Tseng are misidentifications of *L. maderensis*.



II Symposium
"Fauna and Flora
of the
Atlantic Islands"

ABSTRACTS

12 - 16 February 1996
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria