Phylogenetic Placement of *Collybia reinakeana* P. Henn. Philippine Isolates Based on internal transcribed spacer Nucleotide Sequences

Minerva Capon Arenas¹,², Renato Gutierrez Reyes³, Ariel Joseph J. Barza³, Ryo Sumi⁴, Nobuo Mori⁴, Fumio Eguchi⁵

¹Far Eastern University - Manila, Philippines  
²De La Salle University - Manila, Philippines  
³Central Luzon State University, Philippines  
⁴Nikken Sohonsha Corporation, Japan  
⁵Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan

Members of Tricholomataceae (Basidiomycota) include fungi of nutriceutical value. Their taxonomy remains untenable, partly due to their remarkable phenotypic diversities, overlapping distributions, and species that are ill-defined. The Philippine endemic *Collybia reinakeana* P. Henn belongs to this assemblage. Locally known as kabuteng calao, *C. reinakeana* is an edible mushroom. This species is distinguished by having a convex pileus, amazing aggregate fruiting bodies, lacks annulus and volva, and gills that bear white circular to spherical spores. Based on of phylogenetic evidence, *Collybia* appears to reduced its species membership, while most of its originally circumscribed species were transferred into separate genera. Moreover, the phylogenetic and taxonomic placement of *C. reinakeana* have yet to be known. Six pure cultures of *C. reinakeana* fruiting bodies collected from several sites in Luzon, Philippines and were prepared using standard laboratory procedure and were used to infer its phylogenetic placement based on internal transcribed spacer (ITS). Four strains fell within the *Callocybe* clade whereas the other three isolates were closely related to *Macrocybe gigantea*. It appears that *C. reinakeana* includes at least two species conglomerate. It is therefore desirable that the taxonomic placement of *C. reinakeana* should be thoroughly investigated.