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***Erysiphe flexuosa*: a New Disease of Horse Chestnut  
(*Aesculus hippocastanum*) in Serbia**

- Original scientific paper -

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**Abstract:** An agent of powdery mildew new in Serbia is described, viz., *Erysiphe flexuosa* (Peck) U. Braun & S. Takamatsu on the plant species *Aesculus hippocastanum* L. Symptoms of the disease together with taxonomic characters of the parasite in the anamorphic and teleomorphic stages of development are given.

**Key words:** *Aesculus hippocastanum*, *Erysiphe flexuosa*, plant host, powdery mildew, Serbia.

**Introduction**

Fungi of the genus *Erysiphe* are widely disseminated and capable of spreading over a considerable surface of the host plant organs in a relatively short time. On the territory of Serbia, these fungi have been intensively studied on both, cultivated and wild plants, *Ranojević*, 1910, *Radosavljević*, 1924, *Perišić*, 1970, *Marković*, 1974, *Ivanović* and *Ivanović*, 1999, *Ranković*, 1999, 2000, 2002a, 2002b, etc.). Nevertheless, powdery mildew and its agent have not been recorded on plants of the genus *Aesculus* (horse chestnut) in Serbia until now, despite the fact that wild horse chestnut is widespread and it is grown as an ornamental species in parks, gardens, and (especially) rows of trees lining streets and walks. It is known from the literature that powdery mildew is widely disseminated on horse chestnut in North America, *Farr et al.*, 1989. The agent of the disease was originally described as *Uncinulae flexuosa* Peck. Later, *Braun* and *Takamatsu*, 2000, described this fungus *Erysiphe flexuosa* (Peck) U. Braun & S. Takamatsu on the basis of samples of the material assembled from different herbaria, more detailed studies of the anamorphic stage, and exhaustive molecular investigations.









