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# The Bryologist

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## The monotypic genus *Bulborrhizina* belongs to *Bulbothrix* sensu lato (Parmeliaceae, Ascomycota)

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### ABSTRACT

The phylogenetic position of the monotypic genus *Bulborrhizina* is studied using molecular data from three loci (mtSSU, nuLSU and ITS) aligned with sequences from 95 other samples of parmelioid lichens. *Bulborrhizina africana* clusters within the predominantly paleotropical *Bulbothrix* 'clade II' with strong support. However, its relationships within this clade remain uncertain. The morphological characters used to circumscribe *Bulborrhizina* are interpreted as adaptations to the habitat of this species in semi-arid regions of eastern Africa. A formal synonymy of the genus *Bulborrhizina* with either *Bulbothrix* or *Parmelinella* is postponed until sequences of the type species of *Bulbothrix* become available that will allow us to identify which of the two clades of species currently placed in *Bulbothrix* represents *Bulbothrix* s.str.

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