

PDF issue: 2025-12-05

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Suzuki, Masahiro Terada, Ryuta

(Citation)

Phycologia, 60(6):582-588

(Issue Date) 2021-11-02

(Resource Type) journal article

(Version)

Accepted Manuscript

(Rights)

This is an Accepted Manuscript of an article published by Taylor & Francis in [Phycologia on 2021] available online:

http://www.tandfonline.com/10.1080/00318884.2021.1959743

(URL)

https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14094/90008987



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Morpho-anatomical and molecular reassessments of Rhodymenia prostrata

(Rhodymeniaceae, Rhodophyta) from Japan support the recognition of

Halopeltis tanakae nom. nov.

MASAHIRO SUZUKI<sup>1</sup> AND RYUTA TERADA<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kobe University Research Center for Inland Seas, 2746 Iwaya, Awaji, Hyogo, 656-2401, Japan

<sup>2</sup>United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Kagoshima University, 1-21-24 Korimoto,

Kagoshima, 890-0065, Japan

CONTACT

Corresponding author: Masahiro Suzuki; E-mail: dtk-shark2625@goo.jp

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** 

We are grateful to Captain Akimasa Habano and the crew members of T/S Nansei-maru (Faculty

of Fisheries, Kagoshima University) for their assistance in collecting samples offshore of

Mageshima Island, Kagoshima Pref., Japan. We are grateful to Dr Tsuyoshi Abe (Hokkaido

University Museum) for his assistance with examining the holotype specimen of *Rhodymenia* 

prostrata. We also thank the associate editor and reviewers for their valuable comments.

Computations were partially performed on the NIG supercomputer at the Research Organization

of Information and Systems (ROIS), National Institute of Genetics.

**FUNDING** 

This work was supported by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) KAKENHI

Grant Number 20K06797 to M.S.

# **RUNNING TITLE**

Halopeltis tanakae nom. nov. from Japan

#### **ABSTRACT**

We collected the deep-water species *Rhodymenia prostrata* (Rhodymeniaceae, Rhodophyta), for the first time in nearly 50 years, from the type locality off Mageshima Island, Japan. Our combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA analyses suggested that *R. prostrata* belongs in the genus *Halopeltis* but is distinct from all other *Halopeltis* species. However, the binomial *Halopeltis prostrata* already exists and hence a new epithet was required. Consequently, we propose the new name *Halopeltis tanakae* for *R. prostrata* based on morpho-anatomical and molecular analyses. The occurrence of small intercalating cells in *H. tanakae* is congruent with the generic concept of *Halopeltis. Halopeltis tanakae* is characterized by a procumbent thallus, crispate blades, cystocarps lacking basal constrictions, cystocarps primarily on blade margins, and mucilaginous strands in cystocarp cavities. *Halopeltis tanakae* is the second representative of the genus to be reported from the northwestern Pacific.

#### **KEYWORDS**

28S rDNA; cox1; Phylogeny; rbcL; Rhodymeniales; Taxonomy

## **INTRODUCTION**

The marine red algal genus *Halopeltis* J. Agardh (Rhodymeniaceae, Rhodymeniales) was originally described by J. Agardh in 1854. Nine species of this genus are presently known (Saunders & McDonald 2010; Schneider *et al.* 2012). Agardh (1854) described *Halopeltis* based on *Rhodymenia australis* Sonder. Agardh (1854) originally distinguished *R. australis* from the genus *Acropeltis* Montagne (currently treated as a synonym of *Gelidium* J.V. Lamouroux) by the absence of longitudinal filaments in the medulla in the former taxon. The absence of longitudinal filaments in the medulla is what Agardh (1854) subsequently chose to ascribe specimens to

Halopeltis. Despite having described Halopeltis, Agardh (1876) continued to recognize R. australis and made no further mention of Halopeltis. Under R. australis, Agardh (1876, p. 332) placed into synonymy Acropeltis australis J. Agardh. Since Agardh's (1854) original treatment, Halopeltis had not been mentioned for nearly 150 yr.

Silva et al. (1996) pointed out that R. australis was an illegitimate name and proposed the new name R. sonderi P.C. Silva. They further pointed out that although R. australis was an illegitimate name, its synonym, A. australis was legitimate (Silva et al. 1996). Using molecular data, Saunders & McDonald (2010) subsequently distinguished R. sonderi from Rhodymenia Greville, and resurrected Halopeltis, treating A. australis as the basionym of the new combination H. australis (J. Agardh) G.W. Saunders. Additionally, Saunders & McDonald (2010) transferred three species of Rhodymenia and one of Rhodymeniocolax Setchell to Halopeltis and described two further species of the genus. Schneider et al. (2012) subsequently transferred Rhodymenia adnata Okamura to Halopeltis and described two new species. Most Halopeltis species are distributed in the southern hemisphere. Halopeltis adnata (Okamura) G.W. Saunders & C.W. Schneider from Japan and Korea is the only known species of Halopeltis occurring in the northwestern Pacific Ocean (Schneider et al. 2012).

Rhodymenia prostrata Tak. Tanaka was first described from Japan based on a collection dredged from the seafloor at a depth of 50 m off Mageshima Island, Kagoshima Prefecture (Tanaka 1965). The species has not been reported since Tanaka's (1965) original description. In our survey off Mageshima Island from 2016–2017, we collected two specimens that were morpho-anatomically identified as *R. prostrata*, and analysed their *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA. We also examined the vegetative and reproductive anatomies of the specimens to draw a complete picture of the phylogenetic relationship of this poorly known species.

#### **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Samples morpho-anatomically identified as *R. prostrata* were collected from the seafloor at a depth of 32.7–36.8 m offshore of Mageshima Island, Japan, by dredging (T/S *Nansei-Maru*, Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University; Table S1). Specimens were quickly dried in silica gel for molecular analyses. For morpho-anatomical observations, specimens were frozen; voucher specimens were deposited at the National Museum of Nature and Science, Japan (TNS). The holotype, deposited in the Herbarium, Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University, Japan (SAP), was also examined. Herbarium acronyms followed Thiers (2021).

Partial *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA were sequenced for molecular phylogenetic analyses.

Genomic DNA was extracted and sequenced as described by Suzuki *et al.* (2016). The *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA sequences of two specimens of *R. prostrata* from Japan were sequenced

(Table S1). We compiled sequence data available from GenBank for eight *Halopeltis* species,

four unnamed *Halopeltis* species and 12 genera within Rhodymeniaceae for the combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA analyses. As the Rhodymeniaceae have been resolved as monophyletic

(Filloramo & Saunders 2016), three taxa belonging to Champiaceae were designated as outgroup

(Table S1). We assembled data for eight *Halopeltis* species and four or five unnamed *Halopeltis*spp. for the *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA individual analyses. The *rbc*L data for *Halopeltis* sp. 1

WA is not recorded in GenBank. Because Saunders & McDonald (2010) and Schneider *et al.*(2012) suggested that *Halichrysis* (J. Agardh) F. Schmitz is a suitable outgroup for *Halopeltis*,

two taxa of *Halichrysis* were designated as an outgroup for all individual analyses (Table S1).

The 34 *rbc*L, 82 *cox*1 and 33 28S rDNA sequences were aligned using ClustalW (Larkin *et al.*2007). The 28S rDNA sequence alignments were further refined by eye based on published secondary structures of the 28S rRNA gene of *Palmaria palmata* (Linnaeus) Kuntze (Wuyts *et* 

al. 2002) using SeaView 4.1 (Gouy et al. 2010). The ambiguous regions of the alignments and samples with identical nucleotide sequences were removed.

The four datasets, i.e. (i) combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA sequences, (ii) *rbc*L individual sequences, (iii) *cox*1 individual sequences, and (iv) 28S rDNA individual sequences, were subjected to maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) phylogenetic analyses. We included 29 *rbc*L (1299 bp), *cox*1 (645 bp) and 28S rDNA (2463 bp) sequences into the combined analyses, and 18 *rbc*L (1233 bp), 29 *cox*1 (624 bp) and 16 28S rDNA (2634 bp) individual sequences in our data matrix. The alignment was partitioned by region and codon, and distinct models were applied to each partition for both ML and BI analyses. The substitution models for ML and BI are summarized in Table S2. ML analyses were performed using RAxML-NG v1.0.1 (Kozlov *et al.* 2019) as described previously (Suzuki & Terada 2021). BI analyses were performed using MrBayes 3.2.7a (Ronquist *et al.* 2012) following the protocols of Suzuki *et al.* (2016). The *p*-distances for each pair of *Halopeltis* species were calculated using PAUP 4.0b10 software (Swofford 2002).

Four DNA-based methods were applied to the *cox*1 dataset to delimit *Halopeltis* species: Poisson Tree Processes (PTP; Zhang *et al.* 2013); Automatic Barcode Gap Discovery (ABGD; Puillandre *et al.* 2012); and single and multiple thresholds Generalized Mixed Yule Coalescent method (GMYC; Pons *et al.* 2006; Reid & Carstens 2012), as previously described (Suzuki *et al.* 2021).

For morpho-anatomical observations, specimens were first thawed and sectioned by hand or using a freezing microtome (MA-101, Komatsu Electronics, Komatsu, Japan). Sections were stained with 1% cotton blue, acidified with 1% HCl and mounted in 50% aqueous Karo syrup. Photomicrographs were taken using a BX51 microscope (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) with an ATZ

digital camera (Kenis, Tokyo, Japan). Drawings were made using the U-DA Drawing Attachment (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) on a BX51 microscope.

### **RESULTS**

The topology of the ML tree based on the combined rbcL, cox1 and 28S rDNA sequences was similar to that from the Bayesian inference analyses, except in poorly supported branches (Fig. 1). The 12 Halopeltis species formed a monophyletic group that included R. prostrata with strong statistical support (BP = 94%; PP = 1.00). Within this Halopeltis clade, R. prostrata was sister to H. adnata with full statistical support (BP = 100%; PP = 1.00). All individual analyses gave topologies similar to that obtained in the combined analyses, except for poorly supported branches, although the statistical support of individual analyses was typically lower than that of the combined analyses (Figs S1–S3).

We used the *cox*1 individual sequence analyses and the four DNA-based species delimitation methods (PTP, ABGD, GMYC single and GMYC multiple), based on the *cox*1 dataset, to examine the relationships between *R. prostrata* and other *Halopeltis* species. The topology of the ML tree based on *cox*1 sequences is shown in Fig. S1. *Rhodymenia prostrata*, *H. adnata*, *H. willisii* Freshwater & G.W. Saunders and *Halopeltis* sp. 1 WA formed a monophyletic group with full statistical support. The *cox*1 sequence divergence between *R. prostrata* and other *Halopeltis* species varied from 3.0% to 14.4%. All DNA-based species delimitation methods showed that *R. prostrata* and the *Halopeltis* species were subdivided into 14 evolutionarily significant units (Fig. S4). Molecular analyses indicated that *R. prostrata* is distinct from all presently described *Halopeltis* species. Since the binomial *Halopeltis prostrata* G.W. Saunders already exists (Saunders & McDonald 2010), a new name, with a new epithet, is

required for the species (Turland *et al.* 2018, Art. 11.4 and 53.1). Therefore, we propose the following binomial:

## Halopeltis tanakae Mas. Suzuki & R. Terada nom. nov.

Figs 2–16

REPLACED SYNONYM: *Rhodymenia prostrata* Tak. Tanaka 1965, *Memoirs of the Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University* 14, p. 58., figs 7, 8. (Priority for *Halopeltis prostrata* G.W. Saunders *in* Saunders & McDonald 2010, p. 662, figs 50–58.)

HOLOTYPE: SAP 52156!, female gametophyte, seafloor at depth of 50 m, collected 7 June 1964 by T. Tanaka, deposited in the Herbarium, Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University, Japan (SAP).

ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED: **Japan**: Seafloor at depth of 36.8 m offshore of Mageshima Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, 30°41.029′N, 130°50.597′E, *R. Terada*, 18 May 2016, female gametophyte, TNS-AL 209873 (DDBJ Accession numbers: 28S rDNA, LC605141; *cox*1, LC605134; *rbc*L, LC605128); *loc. cit.*, depth 32.7 m, 30°41.745′N, 130°52.300′E, *R. Terada*, 20 Jul. 2017, female gametophyte, TNS-AL 209875 (DDBJ Accession numbers: *cox*1, LC605135; *rbc*L, LC605129).

TYPE LOCALITY: Offshore of Mageshima Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan.

ETYMOLOGY: This species is named after Dr Takeshi Tanaka (1907–1997), who first recognized it as a distinct species.

Thalli were procumbent, attached by haptera scattered along the margins and ventral blade surface, radially extended by 3–5-fold pseudodichotomously branched blades, 2–5 cm in lateral spread, yellowish red to deep red, iridescent *in situ*. Blades were flattened, crispate, anastomosing, nearly 5 mm in width (Figs 2–4). The thallus was solid, 175–220 µm thick near the margins, 240–270 µm thick in middle portion, comprising a cortex and medulla. The cortex was composed of two layers of rounded cells. The outer cortical cells were irregularly and sparsely arranged. The medulla usually had two (rarely three) layers of large ovoid to polygonal cells, with one layer of smaller subcortical, ovoid to rounded cells present between the cortex and medulla (Figs 5, 13, 14). The small intercalating cells were sometimes produced in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells (Figs 6, 7, 15, 16). Cystocarps occurred mostly along

the margins, but at times on both blade surfaces (Figs 2–4, 8). Cystocarps contained tightly packed carposporangia (Fig. 9). Mature carposporangia were polygonal, 17–25 µm in length and 14–18 µm in diameter. The floor of the cystocarps were lined with nutritive cells (Fig. 10). Mucilaginous strands (the 'réseau muqueux' of Huvé & Huvé 1977) were visible in the cystocarpic cavities (Figs 11, 12). Mature cystocarps were hemispherical and lacked a basal constriction, bearing a thick pericarp penetrated by an ostiole (Figs 8, 12). Male gametophytes and tetrasporophytes remain unknown.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Recent collections of *Halopeltis tanakae* (previously *Rhodymenia prostrata*) from its type locality allowed a phylogenetic and morpho-anatomical investigation of this poorly known species. The diminutive size of the holotype specimen of *R. prostrata* precluded examination of its anatomy or genetic sequencing, but the procumbent thalli, crispate blades, cortex and medulla, and positions and shapes of the cystocarps, in our newly collected material closely resembled both the holotype and Tanaka's (1965) original descriptions, supporting the assignment of our specimens to *R. prostrata*. However, our molecular analyses indicated that the specimens we morpho-anatomically identified as *R. prostrata* belong in *Halopeltis* and also that they are distinct from all presently described *Halopeltis* species. The epithet '*prostrata*' is unavailable in *Halopeltis* because of *H. prostrata* G.W. Saunders and thus we formally established the new name *Halopeltis tanakae nom. nov*.

Our combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA analyses grouped 13 *Halopeltis* species, including *H. tanakae*, into a monophyletic natural assemblage (with strong statistical support), in agreement with other published tree topologies (Saunders & McDonald 2010; Schneider *et al.* 2012; Filloramo & Saunders 2016). *Halopeltis* is characterized and distinguished from

Rhodymenia anatomically by: 1) the presence of small intercalating cells in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells (except in the western Atlantic H. pellucida C.W. Schneider & G.W. Saunders); and 2) by tetrasporangia produced by direct conversion of terminal outer cortical cells (Saunders & McDonald 2010; Schneider et al. 2012). Rhodymenia is anatomically characterized by a lack of special cells in the medulla and tetrasporangia derived from intercalary cortical cells at the transition between the inner and outer cortical layers (e.g. Sparling 1957; Saunders & McDonald 2010). Although our samples did not include tetrasporophytes, the presence of small intercalating cells in *H. tanakae* is consistent with the anatomical concept of *Halopeltis*. Molecular phylogenetic analyses suggest that *Halopeltis* and *Halichrysis* are sister genera (Saunders & McDonald 2010; Schneider et al. 2012; Filloramo & Saunders 2016; this study). Halopeltis and Halichrysis share anatomical features, such as the presence of small intercalating cells in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells and the origin of tetrasporangia, which are produced by direct conversion of terminal outer cortical cells. However, the presence of the 'réseau muqueux' (a mucilaginous strand produced by stretching existing nutritive and pericarp tissue) in the cystocarpic cavity, is suggested to be a unique characteristic of Halichrysis (Huvé & Huvé 1977; Saunders et al. 2006). We observed mucilaginous strands in the cystocarpic cavity in H. tanakae. Similar strands have also been reported in H. willisii as 'remnant connections' (Schneider et al. 2012). The presence of a 'réseau muqueux' thus may not be unique to Halichrysis. Halichrysis species form tetrasporangial nemathecia (Huvé & Huvé 1977; Saunders et al. 2006), whereas many Halopeltis species lack this structure (Saunders & McDonald 2010; Schneider et al. 2012). However, H. australis and H. verrucosa (Womersley) G.W. Saunders form distinct nemathecia (Womersley 1996), and H. pellucida form nemathecia-like sori (Schneider et al. 2012). Additional specimens and further investigations of Halopeltis and

*Halichrysis* species are required to clarify the morpho-anatomical distinctions between these genera.

Molecular analyses suggest that *H. tanakae* is closely related to *H. adnata*. The *cox*1 interspecific sequence divergence between H. tanakae and H. adnata was 3.0%, the lowest interspecific sequence divergence among Halopeltis species thus far obtained. Application of DNA-based species delimitation methods to the cox1 dataset indicated that H. tanakae is distinct from H. adnata and other Halopeltis species. A comparison of H. tanakae with five other Halopeltis species bearing prostrate thalli showed that H. tanakae is morpho-anatomically similar to both H. adnata and H. willisii (Table 1). All three species have cystocarps that lack basal constrictions (Tanaka 1965; Lee 2008; Schneider et al. 2012). Halopeltis tanakae is, however, morpho-anatomically distinguished from H. adnata and H. willisii by the absence of a decumbent thallus, relatively narrow blades (< 5.0 mm), and the production of most cystocarps on the blade margins, whereas H. adnata has a partially decumbent thallus and wider blades (> 12 mm), and H. willisii has moderately wider blades (4.0–15 mm) and cystocarps on both blade surfaces and margins (Okamura 1934; Tanaka 1965; Lee 2008; Schneider et al. 2012). Halopeltis tanakae is morpho-anatomically distinguished from H. prostrata by the pseudodichotomous branching, smaller thalli (< 5.0 cm), production of most cystocarps on the blade margins, and the lack of basal constrictions at the cystocarp, whereas *H. prostrata* has dichotomous branching, thalli of up to 10 cm, cystocarps that occur on blade surfaces, and a constriction at the cystocarp base (Saunders & McDonald 2010). Halopeltis tanakae is the second Halopeltis species reported from the northwestern Pacific region.

Halopeltis tanakae has not been collected in Japan from regions beyond offshore

Mageshima Island. All specimens were collected from the seafloor at a depth of more than 30 m

by dredging. The distribution of the species seems to be restricted to deep-water habitats. Further investigations focusing on sublittoral to deep-water environments in warm temperate to subtropical regions are required to determine if *H. tanakae* is more widely distributed in Japan and the wider northwestern Pacific region.

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#### **LEGENDS FOR FIGURES**

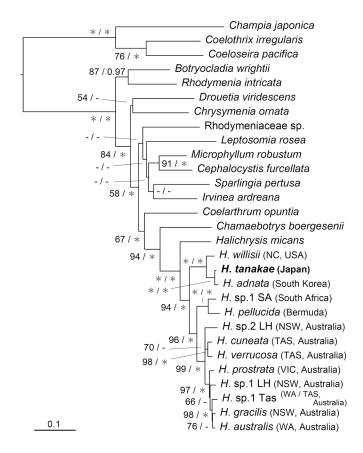
- **Fig. 1**. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on combined rbcL, cox1 and 28S rDNA sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq$  50% and PP  $\geq$  0.95 are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.
- Figs 2–12. Habit, vegetative and reproductive structures of *Halopeltis tanakae nom. nov.* 
  - **Fig. 2**. Holotype (SAP 52156, female gametophyte) specimen showing cystocarps occurring mostly along the blade margins (arrowheads). Scale bar = 5 mm.
  - **Fig. 3**. Female gametophyte (TNS-AL 209873) with cystocarps occurring mostly along the blade margins (arrowheads). Scale bar = 5 mm.
  - **Fig. 4**. Herbarium specimen of a female gametophyte (TNS-AL 209875) showing cystocarps occurring mostly along the blade margins (arrowheads). Scale bar = 5 mm.
  - Fig. 5. Transverse section near upper portion of blade (TNS-AL 209873). Scale bar =  $50 \mu m$ .
  - **Fig. 6**. Transverse section of blade (TNS-AL 209873) showing two intercalating cells (arrowheads) in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells. Scale bar =  $50 \mu m$ .
  - **Fig. 7**. Longitudinal section of blade (TNS-AL 209873) showing an intercalating cell (arrowhead) in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells. Scale bar =  $50 \mu m$ .
  - **Fig. 8**. Close up of a female gametophyte (TNS-AL 209873) with cystocarps occurring along the blade margins (arrowheads). Scale bar = 1 mm.
  - Fig. 9. Longitudinal section through a mature cystocarp (TNS-AL 209873) showing tightly packed carposporangia (arrowheads). Scale bar =  $200 \mu m$ .
  - Fig. 10. Close-up of the floor of a cystocarp (TNS-AL 209873) showing basal nutritive tissue (nt). Scale bar =  $50 \mu m$ .
  - **Fig. 11**. Close-up of the mucilaginous strands on the basal nutritive tissue (arrows) (TNS-AL 209873). Scale bar =  $20 \mu m$ .

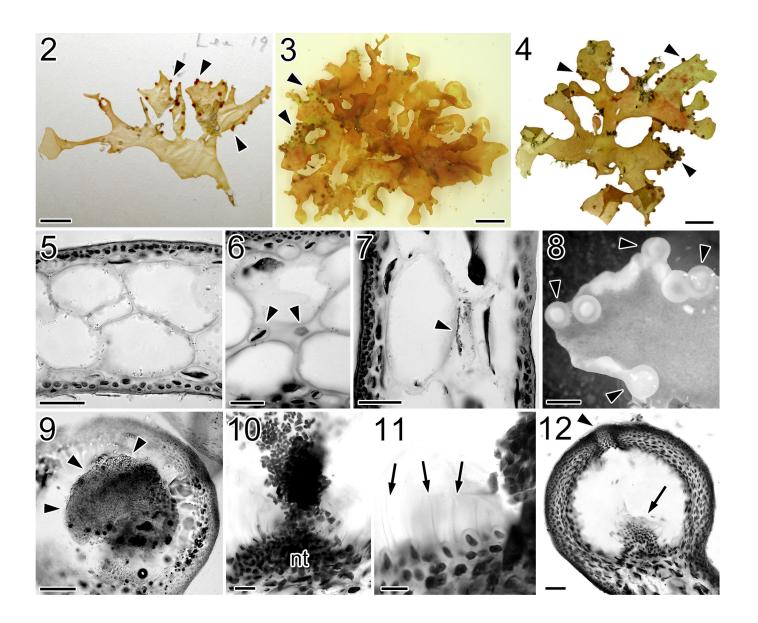
- Fig. 12. Longitudinal section through a cystocarp (TNS-AL 209873) showing the pericarp with an apical ostiole (arrowhead) and the remnants of the basal nutritive tissue and mucilaginous strands (arrow). Scale bar =  $100 \mu m$ .
- Figs 13–16. Drawings of the vegetative structures of *Halopeltis tanakae nom. nov.* (TNS-AL 209873). cc = cortical cell; mc = medullary cell; sc = subcortical cell. Scale bars = 50 μm.
  - Fig. 13. Transverse section at the margin of a blade.
  - Fig. 14. Longitudinal section of a blade.
  - **Fig. 15**. Transverse section of a blade showing two intercalating cells (ic) in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells.
  - **Fig. 16**. Longitudinal section of a blade showing an intercalating cell (ic) in the interstitial spaces between medullary cells.

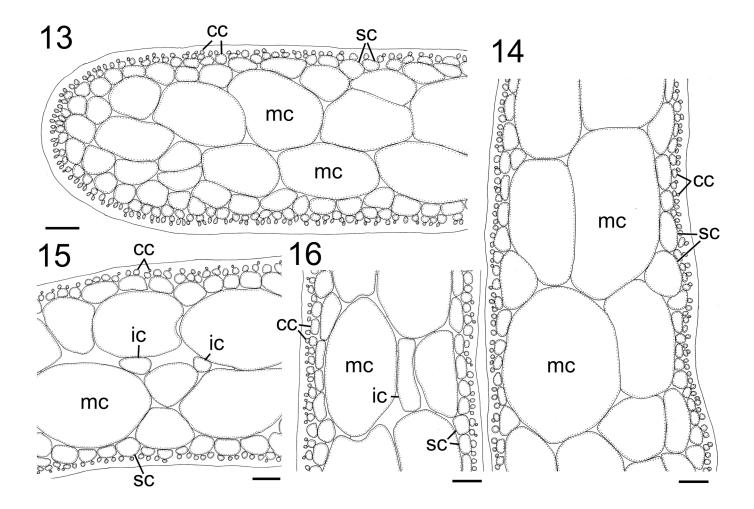
#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

- **Table S1**. Collection locations and details, and INSD (DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank) accession numbers of samples used in the *rbc*L, *cox*1, and 28S rDNA sequence analyses. Accession numbers in bold were determined for this study.
- **Table S2**. Substitution models for the maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) phylogenetic analyses on the basis of four datasets (combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA analysis, *rbc*L individual analysis, *cox*1 individual analysis, and 28S rDNA individual analysis).
- Fig. S1. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on cox1 sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq 50\%$  and PP  $\geq 0.95$  are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.
- Figs S2, S3. Phylogenetic trees
  - **Fig. S2**. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on rbcL sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq$  50% and PP  $\geq$  0.95 are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.

- Fig. S3. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on 28S rDNA sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq$  50% and PP  $\geq$  0.95 are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.
- Fig. S4. Results of the species delimitation analysis plotted on the ultrametric tree based on cox1 sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP) in maximum likelihood phylogeny. Only the BP  $\geq$  50% is shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100%. Bars represent results from the Poisson Tree Processes method (PTP), Automatic Barcode Gap Discovery (ABGD), Generalized Mixed Yule Coalescent (GMYC) method using a single threshold (GMYC single), and GMYC method with multiple thresholds (GMYC multiple).







**Table S1.** Collection locations and details, and INSD (DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank) accession numbers of samples used in the *rbc*L, *cox*1, and 28S rDNA sequence analyses. Accession numbers in bold were determined for this study.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
Champiaceae				
Champia japonica Okamura	Futaana (34°38.316' N, 138°54.560' E), Touji, Shimoda City, Shizuoka Pref.,	AB383121	LC605130	LC605138
	Japan; 16 May 2006; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 163941; Suzuki et al. (2010), this study			
Coeloseira pacifica E.Y. Dawson	Tokawa (35°41.391' N 140°51.286' E), Tokawa Town, Choshi City, Chiba Pref.,	AB693119	LC605131	LC605139
	Japan; 9 Mar. 2005; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 163968; this study			
Coelothrix irregularis (Harvey) Børgesen	Wang Li Tung (21°59.441' N, 120°42.235' E), Hengchun Township, Pingdong	LC605126	LC605132	
	Co., Taiwan; 18 Mar. 2012; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 182111; this study			
	CL020502; Le Gall et al. (2008)			EU624160
Rhodymeniaceae				
Botryocladia wrightii (Harvey) W.E.	Uranohama Beach (39°26' N, 141°58' E), Funakoshi, Yamada Town, Shimohei	LC605127	LC605133	LC605140
Schmidt, D.L. Ballantine & Fredericq	Co., Iwate Pref., Japan; 23 Jun. 2005; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 163962; this study			
Cephalocystis furcellata (J. Agardh) A.J.K.	Queenscliff, Cottage By the Sea Reef, VIC, Australia; 11 Dec. 2000; G.W.	JQ907550	KU934268	
Millar, G.W. Saunders, I.M. Strachan &	Saunders; GWS000958; Schneider et al. (2012), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Kraft	VIC, Australia; G0133; Le Gall & Saunders (2007)			EF033621
Chamaebotrys boergesenii (Weber Bosse)	Little Beach, WA, Australia; 7 Nov. 2010; G.W. Saunders & K. Dixon;	KU726729	KU707876	KU722608
Huisman	GWS024505; Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Chrysymenia ornata (J. Agardh) Kylin	Jervis Bay, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 1995; A. Millar & P. Richards; G0281;	KU382073	KU382038	DQ343670
	Ballantine et al. (2007), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Coelarthrum opuntia (Endlicher) Børgesen	Port Phillip Bay (in the rip), VIC, Australia; 5 Apr. 1995; G.W. Saunders & G.T.	KU726720	KU707867	DQ343671
	Kraft; G0303; Ballantine et al. (2007), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Drouetia viridescens Filloramo & G.W.	Coffs Harbour, Split Solitary Island, NSW, Australia; 9 Dec. 2012; G.W. Saunders	KU726732	KU707881	KU722609
Saunders	& K. Dixon; GWS032624; Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Halichrysis corallinaria D.L. Ballantine,	Lajas, Puerto Rico; 10 Jul. 2000; 6268; Saunders (2005), Ballantine et al. (2007),	JQ858279	AY970628	DQ343674
G.W. Saunders & H. Ruiz	Schneider et al. (2012)			

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
Halichrysis micans (Hauptfleisch) P. Huvé	Malabar Reef, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 14 Mar. 2001; G.W. Saunders;	JQ858278	KU934262	DQ343673
& H. Huvé	GWS001065; Ballantine et al. (2007), Schneider et al. (2012), Filloramo &			
	Saunders (2016)			
Halopeltis adnata (Okamura) G.W.	Piyangdo Island, Rocky Reef at Lighthouse 'Point', Jeju Island, South Korea; 20	JQ907552	JQ907538	JQ907563
Saunders & C.W. Schneider	May 2010; G.W. Saunders & H-G. Choi; GWS018249; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Channel between Little & Big Munseom Islands; Jeju Island, South Korea; 19		HQ544106	
	May 2010; G.W. Saunders & H-G. Choi; GWS018549; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Piyangdo Island, Rocky Reef at Lighthouse 'Point', Jeju Island, South Korea; 20		JQ907537	
	May 2010; G.W. Saunders & H-G. Choi; GWS018224; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Piyangdo Island, Rocky Reef at Lighthouse 'Point', Jeju Island, South Korea; 20		JQ907539	
	May 2010; G.W. Saunders & H-G. Choi; GWS018248; Schneider et al. (2012)			
Halopeltis australis (J. Agardh) G.W.	Kangaroo Island, SA, Australia; 8 Sep. 1995; M.H. Hommersand & F.	HQ400598		
Saunders	Hommersand; WES131; Schmidt et al. 2017			
	Tarcoola Beach, WA, Australia; 21 Sep. 1995; M.H. Hommersand & F.	HQ400599		
	Hommersand; WES235; Schmidt et al. 2017			
	Wilson Bay, Rottnest Island, WA, Australia; 20 Jul. 1994; J.M. Huisman; G0253;	JQ858281	HM033026	EU624152
	Le Gall et al. (2008), Saunders & McDonald (2010); Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Carnac Island, WA, Australia; 12 Dec. 2001; J.M. Huisman; GWS001279;		HM033024	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Point Lonsdale Reef, VIC, Australia; 7 Dec. 2012; G.W. Saunders; GWS001570;		HM033025	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Carnac Island, WA, Australia; 12 Dec. 2001; J.M. Huisman; GWS001280;		HM033027	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Halopeltis cuneata (Harvey) G.W.	Arch Rock, south of Hobart, TAS, Australia; 28 Nov. 2002; R. Withall;	JQ858283	HM033032	HM033164
Saunders	GWS001521; Saunders & McDonald (2010), Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Verona Sands, TAS, Australia; 21 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;		HM033029	
	GWS001954; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
	Verona Sands, TAS, Australia; 24 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;		HM033030	
	GWS001953; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Arch Rock, south of Hobart, TAS, Australia; 28 Nov. 2002; R. Withall;		HM033031	HM033163
	GWS001504; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Halopeltis gracilis G.W. Saunders	Islands off Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W.	JQ907554	KU934269	
	Saunders; GWS002051; Schneider et al. (2012), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)		(HM915982)	
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		HM033033	HM033165
	GWS002049; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; R. Withall;		HM033034	
	GWS002062; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		HM033035	
	GWS002052; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Halopeltis pellucida C.W. Schneider &	South Shore, Cathedral Rock off Castle Harbour, St George's Parish, Bermuda; 23	JQ907555	HQ933375	JQ907565
G.W. Saunders	Aug. 2010; C.W. Schneider, C. Lane, D. McDevit & T. Popolizio; BDA0369;			
	Schneider et al. (2012)			
	South Shore, Cathedral Rock off Castle Harbour, St George's Parish, Bermuda; 18		JQ907541	
	Feb. 2012; T. Popolizio; BDA0886; Schneider et al. (2012)			
Halopeltis prostrata G.W. Saunders	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 9 Dec. 2002; G.W. Saunders; GWS001592;	JQ858280	HM033044	HM033166
	Saunders & McDonald (2010), Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Queenscliff, Port Phillip Heads, VIC, Australia; 17 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		HM033036	
	GWS002451; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002434;		HM033037	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002433;		HM033038	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002432;		HM033039	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002431;		HM033040	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002430;		HM033041	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002429;		HM033042	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Flinders Jetty, VIC, Australia; 16 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders; GWS002428;		HM033043	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Cottage By the Sea Reef, Queenscliff, VIC, Australia; 20 Jan. 2005; G.W.		HM033045	
	Saunders; GWS002558; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Verona Sands, TAS, Australia; 23 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002612;		HM033046	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Point Lonsdale Reef, VIC, Australia; 19 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002542;		HM033047	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Williamstown, Port Phillip Bay, VIC, Australia; 20 Oct. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		HM033048	
	GWS002479; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Pennington Bay, Kangaroo Island, NSW, Australia; 9 Feb. 2008; K.		HM033049	
	Dixon & F. Gurgel; KAD35; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
<i>Halopeltis tanakae</i> Mas. Suzuki & R.	The seafloor at the depth of 36.8 m offshore of Mageshima Island (30°41.029′N,	LC605128	LC605134	LC605141
Terada nom. nov.	130°50.597′E), Kagoshima Pref., Japan; 18 May 2016; R. Terada; TNS-AL			
	209873; this study			
	The seafloor at the depth of 32.7 m offshore of Mageshima Island (30°41.745′N,	LC605129	LC605135	
	130°52.300'E), Kagoshima Pref., Japan; 20 Jul. 2017; R. Terada; TNS-AL			
	209875; this study			
Halopeltis verrucosa (Womersley) G.W.	Nine Pin Point, TAS, Australia; 23 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	JQ858282	HM033060	
Saunders	GWS001912; Saunders & McDonald (2010), Schneider et al. (2012)			

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	bcL cox1	28S rDNA
	Devils Hole, Eaglehawk Neck, TAS, Australia; 27 Nov. 2002; G.W. Saunders;	HM033062	HM033169
	GWS001501; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Warrnambool, VIC, Australia; 17 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002531;	HM033028	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010); as H. austrina.		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033052	
	GWS001981; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033053	
	GWS001973; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033054	
	GWS001974; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033055	
	GWS001972; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033056	
	GWS001968; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033057	
	GWS001966; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Verona Sands, TAS, Australia; 24 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033058	
	GWS001960; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Verona Sands, TAS, Australia; 24 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;	HM033059	
	GWS001958; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Arch Rock, south of Hobart, TAS, Australia; 28 Nov. 2002; G.W. Saunders;	HM033061	
	GWS001508; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Point Lonsdale Reef, VIC, Australia; 19 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002541;	HM033063	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)		
	Devils Hole, Eaglehawk Neck, TAS, Australia; 27 Nov. 2002; G.W. Saunders;	HM033064	
	GWS001497; Saunders & McDonald (2010)		

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
	Point Lonsdale Reef, VIC, Australia; 19 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002539;		HM033065	
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Nov. 2002; G.W. Saunders; GWS001480; Saunders		HM033066	
	& McDonald (2010)			
	Warrnambool, VIC, Australia; 17 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders; GWS002532;		HM033067	HM033170
	Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;		HM033068	
	GWS001986; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;		HM033069	
	GWS001985; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
	Bicheno, TAS, Australia; 26 Jan. 2004; G.W. Saunders & R. Withall;		HM033070	
	GWS001984; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Halopeltis willisii Freshwater & G.W.	Southwest Ledge -1, Onslow Bay, NC, USA; 30 Jun. 2009; A. Poray;	JQ907553	HM915686	JQ907564
Saunders	GWS011431; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Offshore LA, USA; 9 Jul. 2006; S. Fredericq; WES48; Schmidt et al. (2017)	KT154696		
	Southwest Ledge -1, Onslow Bay, NC, USA; 30 Jun. 2009; A. Poray;		JQ907540	
	GWS011432; Schneider et al. (2012)			
Halopeltis sp.1 LH	Roach Wall, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 22 Nov. 2010; G.W. Saunders,	JQ907556	JQ907542	
	K. Dixon & R. Withall; GWS023017; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 31 Jan. 2004; R. Withall; GWS002041;		EF101938	DQ343678
	Ballantine et al. (2007)			
Halopeltis sp.1 SA	Cape, third Sister, Riet River, north of Port Alfred, Cape Prov., South Africa; 20	JQ907549	HM918824	JQ907562
	Jul. 1993; M.H., Fran & Eric Hommersand; GWS008826; Schneider et al. (2012)			
Halopeltis sp.1 Tas	Cozy Corner (Knobby Pt.); WA, Australia; 10 Nov. 2010; G.W. Saunders & K.	JQ907557	JQ907543	
	Dixon; GWS024940; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Blowhole, near Eaglehawk Neck, TAS, Australia; 23 Jan. 2005; G.W. Saunders;		HM033050	HM033167
	GWS002596; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			

Table S1. Continued.

Species	Collection information (locality; date; collector, voucher; Reference)	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
Halopeltis sp.1 WA	Abrolhos Island, WA, Australia; 10 Nov. 1995; G.T. Kraft & G.W. Saunders;		EF101939	DQ343679
	G0402; Ballantine et al. (2007)			
Halopeltis sp.2 LH	Malabar Reef, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 21 Nov. 2010; G.W. Saunders,	JQ907558	JQ907544	
	K. Dixon & R. Withall GWS022825; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		HM033051	HM033168
	GWS002061; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Irvinea ardreana (Brodie & Guiry)	Sines, Portugal; M.D. Guiry & J.A. West; G0173; Withall & Saunders (2006),	JQ907559	KU934258	DQ343714
Guiry	Schneider et al. (2012), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
Leptosomia rosea (Harvey) Womersley	Flinders Jetty; VIC, Australia; 14 May 1993; G.W. Saunders; G0147; Schneider et	JQ907560	KU934264	
	al. (2012), Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
	Seven Mile Beach, WA, Australia; 13 Nov. 1995; G.T. Kraft & G.W. Saunders;			EU624147
	G0384; Le Gall et al. (2008)			
Microphyllum robustum G.W. Saunders	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;	JQ858277		
	GWS002047; Schneider et al. (2012)			
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;		KU934274	
	GWS002046; Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			
	Balls Pyramid, Lord Howe Island, NSW, Australia; 1 Feb. 2004; G.W. Saunders;			GU997654
	GWS002057; Saunders & McDonald (2010)			
Rhodymenia intricata (Okamura)	Banshobana (31°14.464' N 130°25.593' E), Ei Town, Minamikyushu City,	AB383120	LC605136	LC605142
Okamura	Kagoshima Pref., Japan; 31 Mar. 2006; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 164009; Suzuki et al.			
	(2010), this study			
Sparlingia pertusa (Postels & Ruprecht)	Hamakawame (39°28.571' N, 141°58.389' E), Osawa, Yamada Town, Shimohei	AB383123	LC605137	LC605143
G.W. Saunders, I.M. Strachan & Kraft	Co., Iwate Pref., Japan; 3 May 2006; M. Suzuki; TNS-AL 164014; Suzuki et al.			
	(2010), this study			
Rhodymeniaceae sp.	Breakwater at harbor, Portland, VIC, Australia; 14 Nov. 2011; G.W. Saunders &	KU726722	KU707871	KU722600
	K. Dixon; GWS029498; Filloramo & Saunders (2016)			

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**Table S2.** Substitution models for the maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) phylogenetic analyses on the basis of four datasets (combined *rbc*L, *cox*1 and 28S rDNA analysis, *rbc*L individual analysis, *cox*1 individual analysis, and 28S rDNA individual analysis).

	Combined <i>rbc</i> L, <i>cox</i> 1 and 28S rDNA	rbcL	cox1	28S rDNA
Number of taxa	29	18 (19) <sup>1)</sup>	29 (67) <sup>1)</sup>	16 (18) <sup>1)</sup>
Number of nucleotides (bp)	<i>rbc</i> L: 1299, <i>cox</i> 1: 645, 28S rDNA: 2463	1233	624	2634
Substitution model for ML analyses <sup>2)</sup>	rbcL: 1st codons (TIM1+I+G4), 2nd codons (GTR+I), 3rd codons (TPM1uf+I+G4) cox1: 1st codons (GTR+I+G4), 2nd codons (TPM3uf+I+G4), 3rd codons (TrN+I+G4) 28S rDNA: GTR+I+G4	1st codons (TrN+I), 2nd codons (GTR+I), 3rd codons (TPM2uf+G4)	1st codons (TIM1+G4), 2nd codons (HKY), 3rd codons (HKY+I+G4)	GTR+I+G4
Substitution model for BI analyses <sup>3)</sup>	rbcL: 1st codons (GTR+I+G), 2nd codons (GTR+I+G), 3rd codons (HKY+I+G) cox1: 1st codons (GTR+I+G), 2nd codons (HKY+I), 3rd codons (GTR+I+G) 28S rDNA: GTR+I+G	1st codons (GTR+I), 2nd codons (GTR+G), 3rd codons (GTR+G)	1st codons (GTR+I+G), 2nd codons (HKY), 3rd codons (HKY+I+G)	GTR+I+G

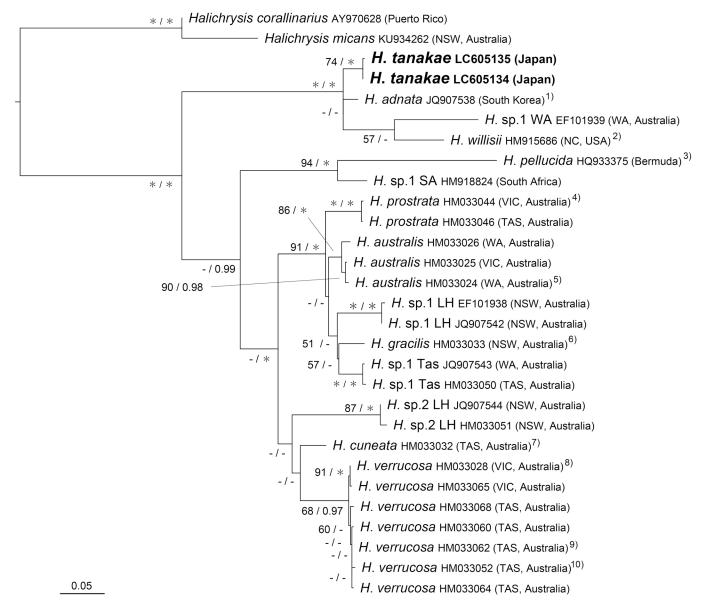
<sup>1)</sup> The numbers within parentheses indicate original number of taxa including the samples with identical nucleotide sequences.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2)</sup> Each substitution model was selected by Akaike's information criterion using ModelTest-NG 0.1.6 (Darriba et al. 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3)</sup> Each substitution model was selected by Akaike's information criterion using MrModeltest 2.3 (Nylander 2004).

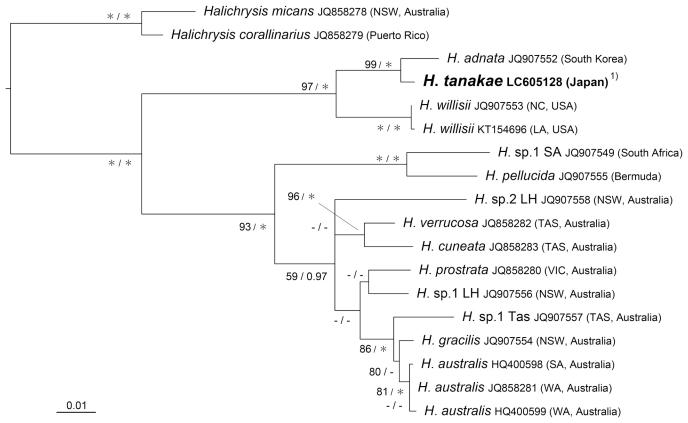
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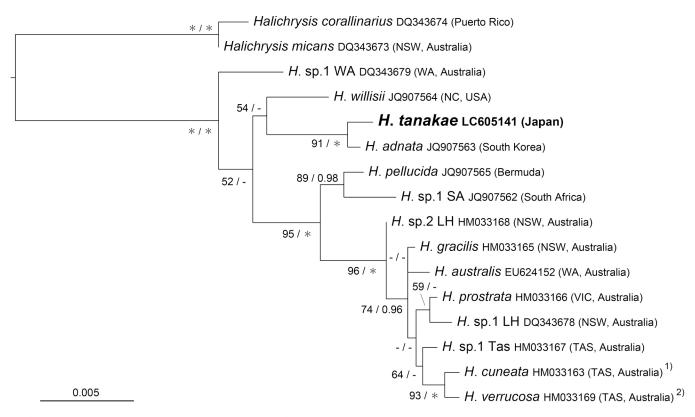
<sup>1)</sup>HQ544106, JQ907539 (South Korea) had identical sequences. <sup>2)</sup>JQ907540 (NC, USA) had identical sequence. <sup>3)</sup>JQ907541 (Bermuda) had identical sequence. <sup>4)</sup>HM033037-HM033045, HM033047, HM033048 (VIC, Australia), HM033049 (NSW, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>5)</sup>HM033027 (WA, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>6)</sup>HM033034, HM033035, HM915982, KU934269 (NSW, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>7)</sup>HM033030-HM033032 (TAS, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>8)</sup>HM033054-HM033056, HM033067 (VIC, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>9)</sup>HM033054-HM033056, HM033061 (TAS, Australia) had identical sequences. <sup>10)</sup>HM033057-HM033059, HM033061 (TAS, Australia) had identical sequences.

Fig. S1. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on cox1 sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq 50\%$  and PP  $\geq 0.95$  are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.



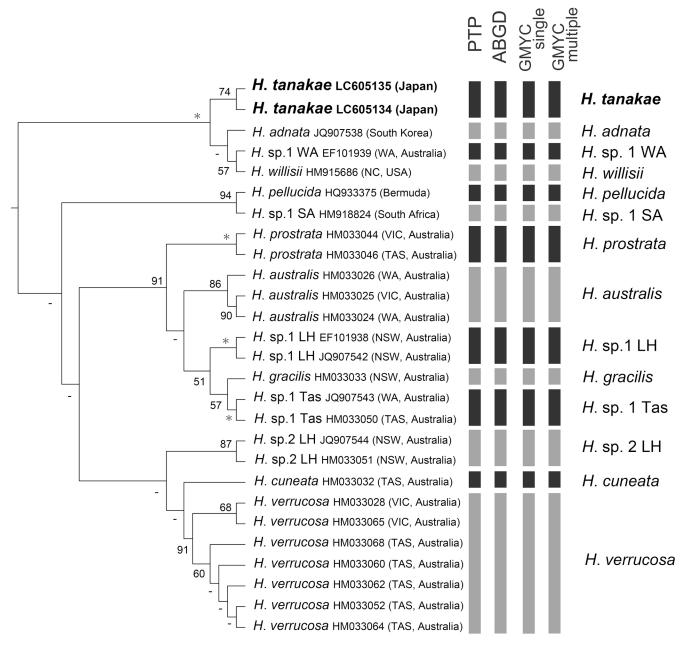
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)</sup>LC605129 (Japan) had identical sequence.

Fig. S2. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on *rbc*L sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq 50\%$  and PP  $\geq 0.95$  are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)</sup>HM033164 (TAS, Australia) had identical sequence. <sup>2)</sup>HM033170 (VIC, Australia) had identical sequence.

Fig. S3. Maximum likelihood phylogeny based on 28S rDNA sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP, left) and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP, right). Only the BP  $\geq$  50% and PP  $\geq$  0.95 are shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100% and PP = 1.00.



**Fig. S4.** Results of the species delimitation analysis plotted on the ultrametric tree based on cox1 sequences. Numbers below the branches indicate the bootstrap values (BP) in maximum likelihood phylogeny. Only the BP ≥ 50% is shown. Asterisks (\*) indicate BP = 100%. Bars represent results from the Poisson Tree Processes method (PTP), Automatic Barcode Gap Discovery (ABGD), Generalized Mixed Yule Coalescent (GMYC) method using a single threshold (GMYC single), and GMYC method with multiple thresholds (GMYC multiple).