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**RESEARCH ARTICLE****RAMARIA FLAVA. A NEW REPORT OF A CLAVARIOID FUNGUS FOR ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA****Arvind Parihar\****Botanical Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, India 791111*Email: [arvind\\_peace@rediffmail.com](mailto:arvind_peace@rediffmail.com)*Received-25.12.2025, Revised-11.01.2026, Accepted-25.01.2026*

**Abstract:** The genus *Ramaria* encompasses over 200 coral fungal species globally. During a routine fungal survey in Eastern parts of Arunachal Pradesh, India, few specimens of clavarioid fungi were collected, which were later identified as *Ramaria flava* based on thorough macro- and micro-morphological studies. This marks the first documentation of the genus *Ramaria* in the state. Detailed morphological descriptions and illustrations are presented in this study.

**Keywords:** Arunachal Pradesh, clavarioid fungi, New record, Taxonomy

**INTRODUCTION**

**R***amaria* Fr. ex Bonord. is a genus of coral fungi with more than 200 described species worldwide (Exeter *et al.*, 2006, Ghosh *et al.*, 2020). It is the largest and most complex Genus of clavarioid fungi (Petersen, 1976). Species of the genus *Ramaria* are distributed worldwide and are found growing on living and decayed hardwood, tree trunks, partially decomposed organic matter, and as mycorrhizal fungi under conifers. Commonly referred to as clavarioid fungi, they are characterized by their extensively branched and often coloured basidiomata (Kuo, 2009; Dorjey *et al.*, 2016, Ullah *et al.*, 2022). Among these, *Ramaria flava* (Schaeff.) Quél. and *R. stricta* (Pers.) Quél., are common edible clavarioid fungi (Krupodorova & Sevindik, 2020). In the present communication, *Ramaria flava* (Schaeff.) Quél. is reported as new record from Upper Dibang Valley District of Arunachal Pradesh, India.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

A routine macrofungal survey was conducted during the monsoon season (July–August) of 2024 in

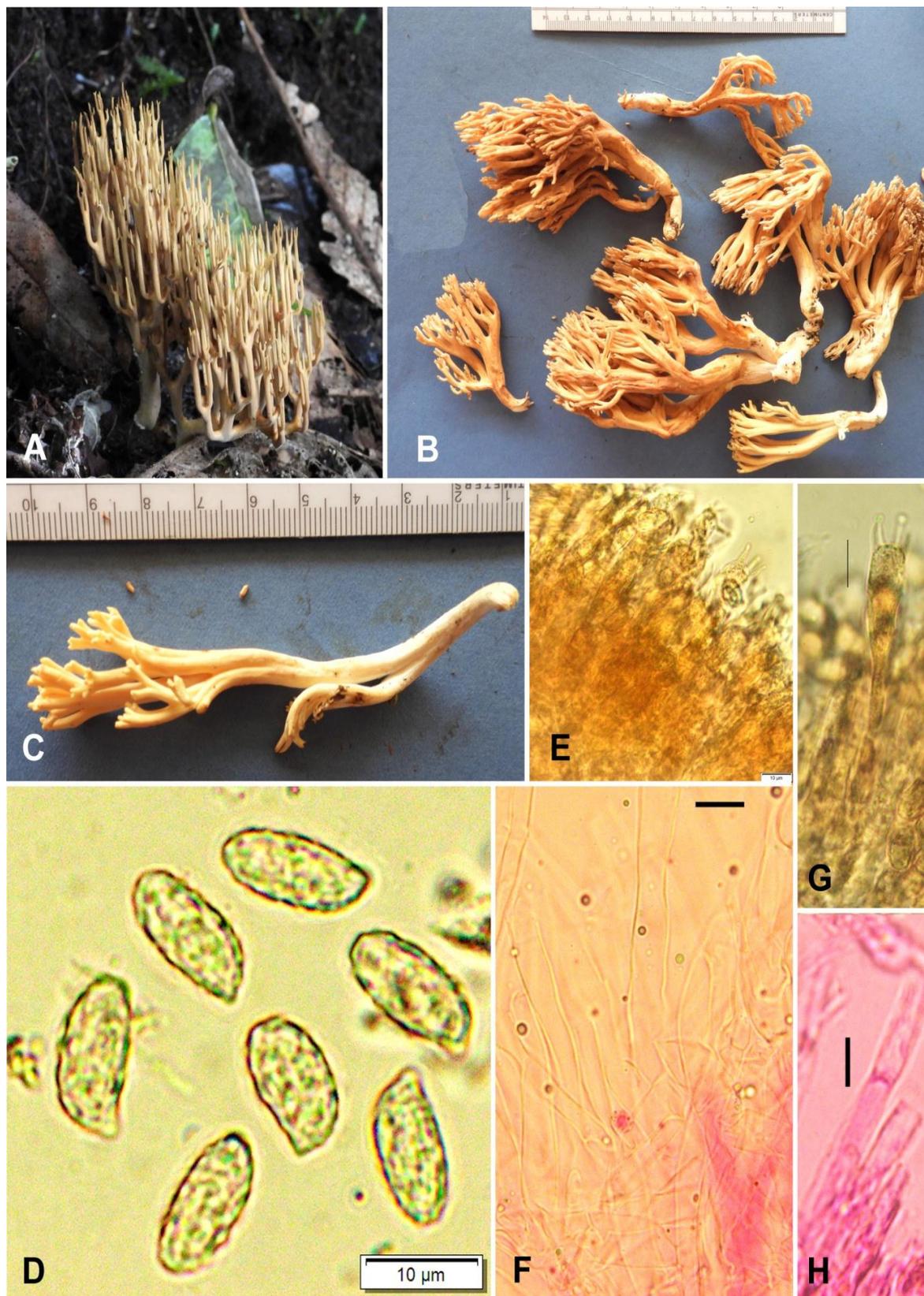
Eastern Arunachal Pradesh, specifically in the Upper Dibang Valley District and macro-fungi specimens were collected. Macro-morphological characterization of fresh basidiomata was performed both in the field and at the base camp. Field photographs of the basidiomata and their habitats were captured using a Nikon P950 camera and also with mobile phone, showing important morphological features. Herbarium materials were prepared and subsequently utilized for macro- and micro-morphological studies. Herbarium codes follow the standard outlined by Thiers, 2010 (continuously updated). Color notations referenced in the descriptions adhere to the system of Kornerup and Wanscher (1978). Standard methods for macro- and micro-morphological analyses were employed as per the protocols established by Das *et al.* (2017) for the identification of specimens.

**RESULTS***Taxonomy*

*Ramaria flava* (Schaeff.) Quél., *Fl. mycol.* France (Paris): 466 (1888)

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**Figure 1.** *Ramaria flava* (Schaeff.) Quéf. A. Habitat of the basidiomata, B. Basidiomata with scale showing Branches and stipe, C. Single branch of basidiomata, D. Basidiospores, E. Hymenium showing basidia and basidioles, F. Tramal hyphae from the stipe, G. Single Basidia, H. Tramal hyphae of upper branches. Scale bars: E-H = 10 µm.



**Figure 1.** *Ramaria flava* (Schaeff.) Quél. A. Basidiospores, B. basidia, C. Tramal hyphae of upper branches, D. Tramal hyphae from the stipe. Scale bars: A-D = 10  $\mu$ m.

Basidiomata solitary, 60–150 mm high, 50–100 mm wide, dichotomously branched in 4–5 ranks, coralloid, pale yellow (4A3); Stipe 20–31  $\times$  5–14 mm, large to medium sized (not massive), smooth, compound to fasciculate in groups of 2–3, yellowish orange (4A2) to pale yellow (4A3) when fresh, light orange (5A5) to orange (5A6) when dry, tapering gradually at the base; Context solid, fleshy, brittle when dry, orange white (5A2), no colour change with KOH and FeSO<sub>4</sub>; Major branches 5–6, ascending, light orange (5A4–5A5); Branches in 4–5 ranks, ascending, internodes diminishing gradually upward,

pale yellow (5A2) at the base; Apices obtuse, orange white (5A2) to pale orange (5A3) to light orange (5A4); Odour mild pleasant, Taste not recorded.

Hyphal system monomitic; Stipe tramal hyphae 4–7  $\mu$ m wide, hyaline, thin- to thick-walled (wall up to 0.5  $\mu$ m thick), tortuous, densely interwoven, not adherent or agglutinated, occasionally clamped; ampulliform occasionally with clamps. Tramal hyphae of upper branches 4–5.5  $\mu$ m wide, thin-walled, parallel, clamped, hyalin; Hymenium all along the basidiomata; Basidia 65–90  $\times$  5.5–7.5  $\mu$ m, clavate, with a basal clamp, multiguttulate when

mature, 2 to 4-spored, sterigmata 3.5–5 µm long; Basidiospores 10–(12.9)–14.5 × 5–(6.4)–7 µm, Q = 1.8 – (2.0) – 2.4, elliptical to ovoid, roughened, 1-several guttulae, hyaline, cyanophilous.

Specimens Examined: India, Arunachal Pradesh, Upper Debang Valley, near Chiku valley, Anini, alt. 1771 m., 28°57'48.20" N, 95°58'15.77"E, 24.07.2024, A. Parihar AP 24-149 (ARUN F 39).

## DISCUSSION

The Macro- and Micro-morphological characteristics of the present specimen align closely with the descriptions provided by Petersen (1969, 1989), Ahmad *et al.* (1997) and Ullah *et al.*, 2022 and confirming its identification as *Ramaria flava*. This species is a well-known edible mushroom (Ullah *et al.*, 2022). However, despite its edibility, it has not gained significant popularity among the local communities of Arunachal Pradesh. This limited acceptance could suggest a lack of awareness or familiarity with the species as a food source within the region. Further studies and community outreach may be necessary to explore the potential culinary and ecological value of *R. flava* in local contexts.

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