

**Species discovery among British Columbia’s fibre cap mushrooms:
A more complete phylogeny of the *Inocybe “praetervisa”* group**

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Abstract

Inocybe section *Marginatae* includes difficult species complexes and many as-yet undescribed species. In British Columbia, Canada, specimens identified under as three different species representing the *Inocybe praetervisa* clade in Sect. *Marginatae* have been collected repeatedly. Although the *I. praetervisa* clade is better studied than many other groups, knowledge about its species diversity still has gaps. This became evident when analysis of the DNA sequences of the ITS and RPB2 region showed that BC specimens were divided into three well-supported clades, provisionally named Species 4, 5, and 7, all of which differed from published species of the *I. praetervisa* clade. ‘Species 4’ was represented by 6 collections which consistently formed their own clade concluding it to be a novel species. Species 5 consistently formed its own clade but represented by only three samples from one locality, within-species variation could not be assessed. Species 7 was distributed with *I. salicis-herbaceae* and *I. phaeocystidiosa*. Research from this study demonstrates the difficulty of morphological species identification because of the overlap of morphological characteristics. It highlights the utility of molecular analysis of both ITS and RPB2 regions for further studies on the *Inocybe praetervisa* clade.