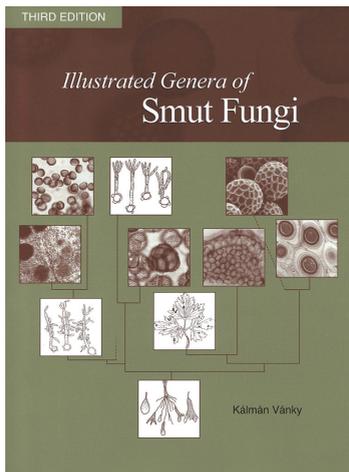


**Illustrated genera of smut fungi.** By Kálmán Vánky. 2013. Third edition. The American Phytopathological Society (APS Press), St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. <<http://www.apsnet.org/apsstore/shopapspress/Pages/44280.aspx>>; 288 pages, 116 plates (containing line drawings and micrographs); softcover book. ISBN 978-0-89054-428-0. Price \$ 139 plus S&H.



*Illustrated Genera of Smut Fungi* is the most important manual on the taxonomy of the smut fungus genera. Compared with the second edition of that book, written in 2002, in the expanded new one the number of the accepted smut genera has increased from 77 to 104 (including two ascomycetous genera, *Restilago* and *Schroeteria*).

A short introduction gives an explanation of what smut fungi are. The other introductory chapters include: general information on the recent classification systems of the smuts and allied fungi, discussion on some trends and problems in the classification of the smut fungi, brief analyses of their host specialization, and the known number of species within each genus, as well as more detailed information on the septal pore types and host-parasite interactions.

The taxonomic part begins with a key to the genera of smut fungi based on host plant families. A glossary explains the most important special expressions and terminology used in the book. The main body of the text consists of detailed descriptions and illustrations of the genera. Each genus is provided with carefully selected and correctly presented diagnostic information on the development of the sori and their morphology, microscopic features of the spores, the type of host-parasite interaction, and septal pore type. For each genus, nomenclature, description, and illustrations of the type species are given, including development of the sori and their morphology, microscopic features of the spores as seen by LM and SEM, germination of the spores, hosts, distribution, and the main literature sources. The drawings and LM and SEM photographs are of high quality and successfully complement the descriptions of the type species.

Detailed information about 3 doubtful genera and their type species is also given. Finally, a list of regional monographs is attached, followed by a comprehensive list of references to literature on general problems, phylogeny, and classification of the smut fungi, and an index of the cited fungus names which are very helpful for the readers.

This monograph is aimed at mycologists and phytopathologists that encounter or study this remarkable group of fungi.

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