

Validation of “*Dictyota pervagata*” *nom. inval.* (Dictyotaceae, Phaeophyceae)

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Corrales & al. (2026) proposed a new species, “*Dictyota pervagata*”; however, this is an invalid designation as a single element was not designated as type as required by the *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants* (Art. 9.1, Madrid Code, Turland & al. 2025). We hereby validate this invalid designation.

Dictyota pervagata, sp. nov.

Description: Growth form highly variable, ranging from erect to prostrate thalli. Typically, consisting of a mix of wide and narrow fronds, transitioning into filiform apices. Thallus coloration varying from light to medium brown, exhibiting variable iridescence. Conspicuous base absent, with attachment occurring through patches of rhizoids that develop upon contact with the substratum. Marginal rhizoids and scattered spines may be present, though the surface is predominantly smooth. Cell wall thickenings of medullary cells present. Branching either isotomous or irregular, with variability among specimens. Apices 0.02–1.7 mm in width, while blades range from 0.1–5.1 mm in width. The medulla is unistratose, and in cross-section, thickenings resemble small water drops. Sporangia occur singly, scattered across both surfaces, measuring 74.5–82.4 µm in width.

Type locality: Acuario Cay (12.5528 N, 81.6886 W), San Andrés and Providencia, Caribbean Colombia; intertidal zone at 0.5 m depth.

Holotype: MCC1258, leg. Brigitte Gavio, 17 March 2023, deposited at JIWUKORI Herbarium (JIW) at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Bogotá (JIW 0005952).

Isotypes: MCC1257 (herbarium accession number JIW0005953); MCC1256 (herbarium accession number JIW 0005954); MCC1255 (herbarium accession number JIW 0005955 and JIW 0005956); MCC1254 (herbarium accession number JIW 0005957); MCC1260 (herbarium accession number JIW 0005958); MCC1253 (herbarium accession number JIW 0005959).

Representative illustrations: Corrales & al. (2026, fig. 3 G, H).

GenBank accession numbers: *psbA* (PX0918743); *cox1* (PX091808).

Etymology: *pervagatus*, -a, -um (Latin), meaning “widely spread” or “extensively distributed.” This name reflects the broad geographic distribution of the species across multiple tropical regions.

Corrales, M.B., Gavio, B., D’hondt, S., Dueñas L.F. & De Clerck, O. (2026). Cryptic diversity in the genus *Dictyota* (Dictyotales, Phaeophyceae): *Dictyota pervagata* sp. nov., a lineage with a pantropical distribution. *Nova Hedwigia*. Published online June 16, 2026.
https://doi.org/10.1127/nova_hedwigia/1263.

Turland, N.J., Wiersema, J.H., Barrie, F.R., Gandhi, K.N., Gravendyck, J., Greuter, W., Hawksworth, D.L., Herendeen, P.S., Klopfer, R.R., Knapp, S., Kusber, W.-H., Li, D.-Z., May, T.W., Monroe, A.M., Prado, J., Price, M.J., Smith, G.F. & Zamora Señoret, J.C. editors (2025). International code of nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (2025 Edition Madrid Code) Regnum Vegetabile Volume 162. pp. [i]–xlvi, 1–303. Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press.