Trying again with IKI and KOH.
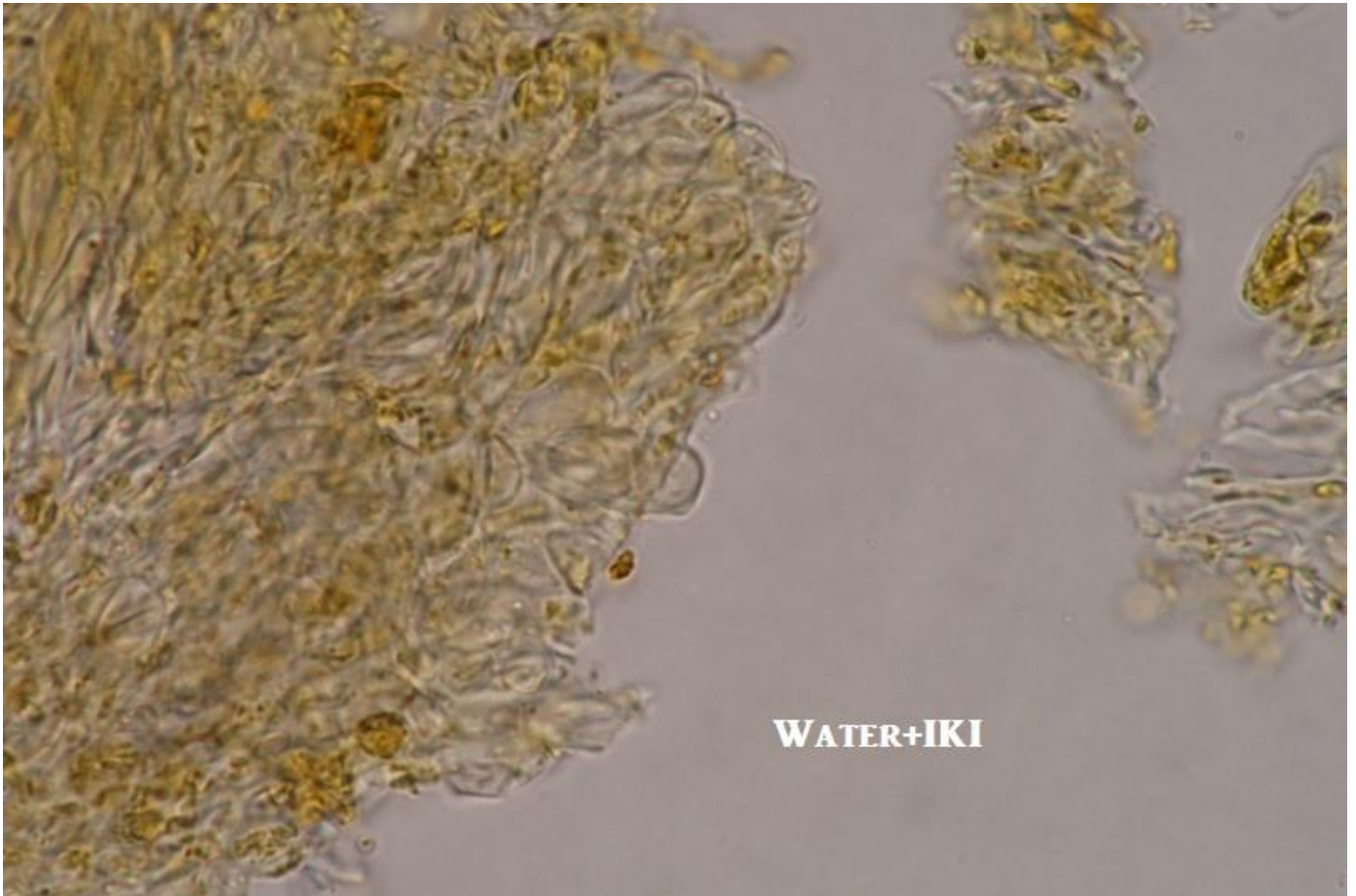
First I put the sample in water and added IKI to the edge:

http://picasaweb.google.es/lh/photo/FwH6uvay46swfI69ekyO-_KnqPnyVMhbutb2XV-zB3o?feat=directlink

It seems to be a reaction in the excipula but my eyes cannot define the colour (but not reddish for me, maybe grayish):

After IKI I put KOH at the edge. Here the KOH entering and "destroying" IKI:

http://picasaweb.google.es/lh/photo/WwK9WURNizeDrFmUxZMi9fKnqPnyVMhbutb2XV-zB3o?feat=directlink

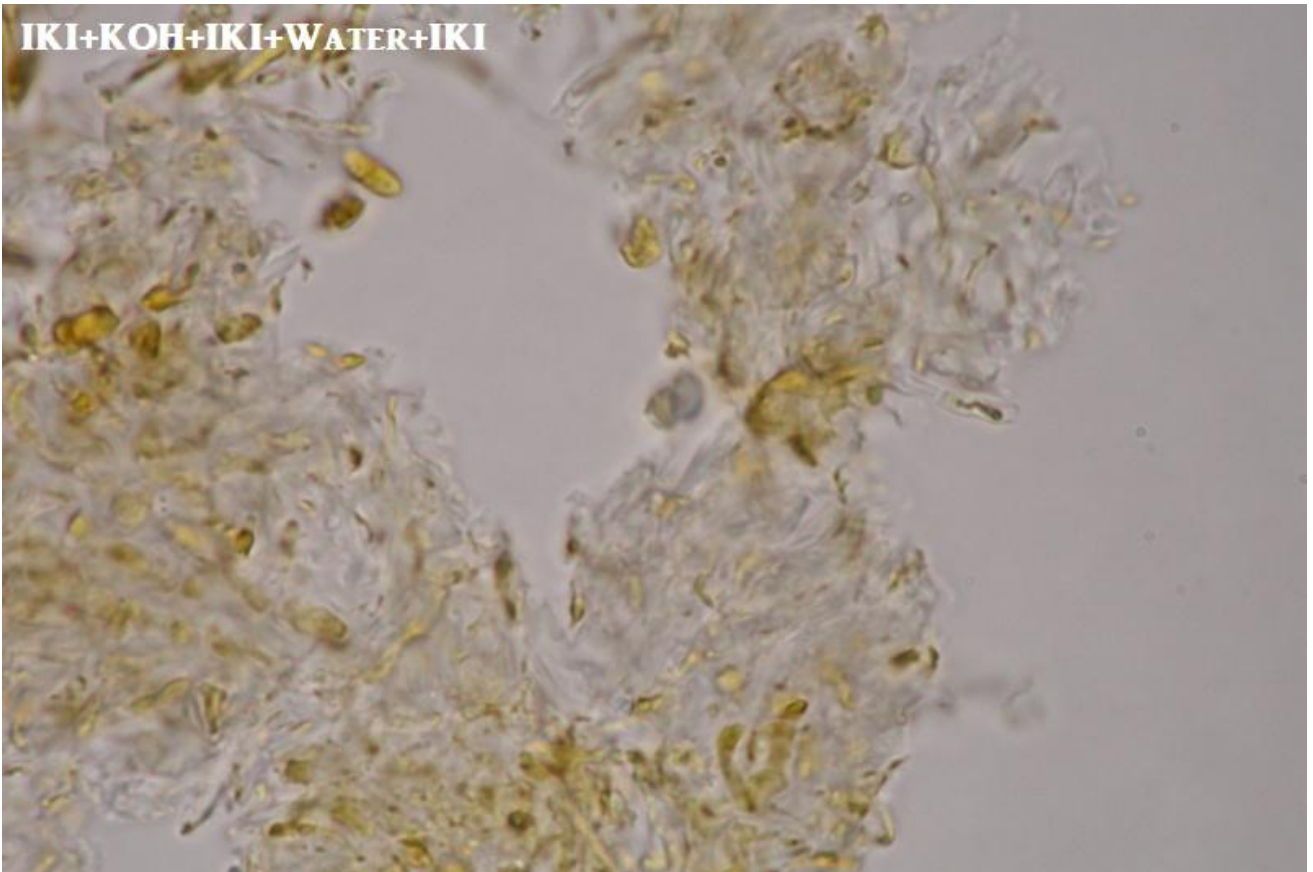After that, I applied again IKI and the violet reaction appears:

http:/ /picasaweb.google.es/lh/photo/xDDeSi83Zkodsv5jg6QJO_KnqPnyVMhbutb2XV-zB3o?feat=directlink

Then I washed with water applying water on the edge. All reaction disappears:

http://picasaweb.google.es/lh/photo/jDtkAWRXc8siexlXubJfOvKnqPnyVMhbutb2XV-zB3o?feat=directlink

I then applied IKI and I got a very weak ¿grayish? reaction or no reaction:

Then I took off the surplus of water, applied KOH, took off also the surplus of KOH and added IKI. Again the violet reaction:

http://picasaweb.google.es/lh/photo/mCmasXZn1L1-hhK1fvZP9PKnqPnyVMhbutb2XV-zB3o?feat=directlink

Conclusions:

1) When you add IKI to the excipula of this species you get a ¿grayish? reaction very easy to overlook (invisible?). No red or red-brown or pink. But maybe it is a matter of colours and how each of us (and our microscopes and cameras) understands the colours.

2) KOH changes this IKI reaction and enhances the undefined colour to a violet reaction.

3) If you rinse with water the mount (IKI+KOH+IKI) and then you add only IKI, the violet reaction does not appear. So always you have to apply first KOH and then IKI to see the violet reaction. You can repeat this several times.

4) Rinsing with water a KOH+IKI doesn´t change the violet reaction to blue, it just disappears.

Here all the photos with captions (I only put captions in the first photo of each of the different mounts):
http://picasaweb.google.es/raultenamicolista/20100909SpDeBetula?authkey=Gv1sRgCJbu6_zy-syOIA&feat=directlink

Difficult to explain all this stuff!

I still have to test with Melzer…

Cheers,

Raúl.