

*Seiridium phyllicae*



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***Seiridium phylicae* Crous & M.J. Wingf., sp. nov.***Etymology.* Name refers to the host genus, *Phylica*.

Caulicolous. *Conidiomata* stromatic, pycnidia, scattered to aggregated, erumpent, conical, up to 350 µm diam, uniloculate, dark brown to black, opening by irregular rupture; basal stroma of dark brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* lining cavity, filamentous, creating impression of paraphyses, septate, branched, hyaline, smooth, up to 80 µm long, and 3.5 µm wide. *Conidiogenous cells* subcylindrical, terminal and lateral, integrated, smooth, hyaline, 10–20 × 1.5–3 µm; proliferating percurrently. *Conidia* fusoid to ellipsoid, dark to golden brown, granular, 5-septate, not constricted at septa, with visible central septal pore, (23–)28–30(–35) × (9–)10(–11) µm; basal cell conical with truncate hilum, pale brown to hyaline, 3–5 µm long; 4 median cells doliform to subcylindrical, brown, with wall and septa being darker, cells together 17–23 µm long; apical cell broadly conical, apex rounded, hyaline, 2–4 µm long. Apical appendages tubular, unbranched, eccentric, 6–8 µm long; basal appendages unbranched, centric, 2–5 µm long.

Culture characteristics — (in the dark, 24 °C after 2 wk): Colonies erumpent, spreading, with moderate aerial mycelium and even, lobate margins. On malt extract agar surface pale olivaceous-grey, with patches of dirty white; reverse cinnamon. On potato-dextrose agar surface dirty white with patches of black sporulation; reverse dirty white. On oatmeal agar surface pale grey-olivaceous with patches of dirty white, reaching 30 mm diam.

*Typus.* UK, British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, Inaccessible Island, Blenden Hall, S37°17'41" W12°42'08", stems of *Phylica arborea* (*Rhamnaceae*), Sept. 2011, P.G. Ryan, holotype CBS H-21089, cultures ex-type CPC 19962–19965 (CPC 19964 = CBS 133587), β-tubulin (TUB) sequence GenBank KC005819–KC005821, TEF1-α sequences GenBank KC005815–KC005817, ITS sequences GenBank KC005785–KC005785, LSU sequences GenBank KC005807–KC005810, MycoBank MB801788.

Notes — *Conidia* of *Seiridium cardinale* are 21–30 × 8–10 µm, with basal appendage being 1 µm long when present, and apical appendage 0.5–1.5 µm (Sutton 1980), which clearly distinguishes it from *Seiridium phylicae*. Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Seiridium eucalypti* (GenBank DQ414533; Identities = 833/833 (100 %), Gaps = 0/833 (0 %)), *Seiridium unicorn* (GenBank DQ414532; Identities = 833/833 (100 %), Gaps = 0/833 (0 %)) and *Lepteutypa cupressi* (GenBank AF382379; Identities = 872/875 (99 %), Gaps = 3/875 (0 %)). Closest hits using the ITS sequence had highest similarity to *Seiridium cardinale* (GenBank AF409995; Identities = 552/558 (99 %), Gaps = 2/558 (0 %)), *Seiridium cupressi* (GenBank FJ430600; Identities = 558/567 (98 %), Gaps = 4/567 (1 %)) and *Seiridium unicorn* (GenBank AF377299; Identities = 567/578 (98 %), Gaps = 2/578 (0 %)). Closest hits using the TUB sequence had highest similarity to *Seiridium cardinale* (GenBank DQ926973; Identities = 353/366 (96 %), Gaps = 3/366 (1 %)) and *Seiridium cupressi* (GenBank AF320495; Identities = 385/401 (96 %), Gaps = 2/401 (0 %)). Only distant hits (e.g. Identities = 218/249 (88 %), Gaps = 12/249 (5 %)) with *Pestalotiopsis* spp. were obtained when the TEF sequences were used in a megablast search.

*Colour illustrations.* *Phylica arborea* growing on Inaccessible Island; colony on synthetic nutrient-poor agar; conidiophores, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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