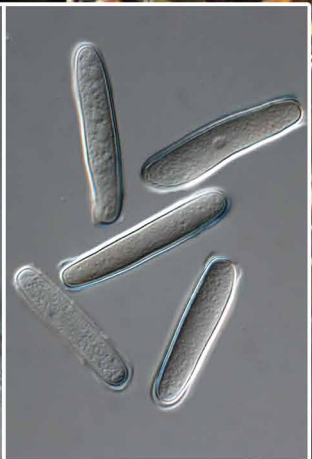


Alanphillipsia aloeigena



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***Alanphillipsia aloeigena* Crous & M.J. Wingf., sp. nov.**

Etymology. Named after the host genus on which it occurs, *Aloe*.

Conidiomata black, pycnidial, up to 500 µm diam, erect with elongated neck and central ostiole, surface covered with mycelial hairs, forming individually on WA, OA and PNA; wall of 6–10 layers of brown, thick-walled *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells lining the inner cavity. *Conidiogenous cells* hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical to ampulliform, 3–5 × 10–25 µm, proliferating percurrently at apex. *Conidia* smooth, hyaline, becoming pale brown with age, guttulate to granular, thick-walled, subcylindrical, straight to irregularly curved, apex obtuse, becoming clavate with age; base truncate, but with prominent basal frill which appears as flared appendage, 1–2 µm long, but in exceptional cases up to 5 µm long, (25–)28–38(–50) × (6–)7–8(–10) µm; the basal frill can be seen on immature conidia to extend up to 5 µm along the side of the tapered conidium, suggesting that this is a true appendage, and not a mere marginal frill that results from rhexolytic conidiation; on some conidia this is visible as an outer layer that completely encloses the conidium as additional layer, not as mucoid sheath. A few microconidia were observed in culture, which were hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical with obtuse ends, 5–10 × 3–4 µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies covering the dish within 2 wk, with moderate aerial mycelium and even, smooth margins. On MEA surface pale olivaceous-grey in centre, olivaceous-grey in outer zone, sepia in reverse. On PDA surface and reverse olivaceous-grey with patches of iron-grey. On OA iron-grey with patches of olivaceous-grey and dirty white.

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Namakwaland, Goegap Nature Reserve, on leaves of *Aloe melanocantha* (*Xanthorrhoeaceae*), 26 Sept. 2012, M.J. Wingfield (holotype CBS H-21419, culture ex-type CPC 21286 = CBS 136408, ITS sequence GenBank KF777137, LSU sequence GenBank KF777193, MycoBank MB805818).

Notes — *Alanphillipsia aloeigena* is morphologically interesting in that its conidia, which eventually turn brown with age, are formed inside a thin-walled sheath that can extend at either end into appendages.

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Phaeobotryosphaeria visci* (GenBank DQ377869; Identities = 799/805 (99%), no gaps), *Botryosphaeria sumachi* (GenBank DQ377865; Identities = 799/805 (99%), no gaps) and *Sphaeropsis sapinea* (GenBank EU754157; Identities = 798/805 (99%), no gaps). Closest hits using the ITS sequence had highest similarity to *P. citrigena* (GenBank EU673329; Identities = 540/560 (96%), Gaps = 6/560 (1%)), *Diplodia pseudo-seriata* (GenBank EU860383; Identities = 538/574 (94%), Gaps = 16/574 (2%)) and *P. eucalypti* (GenBank JX646803; Identities = 511/531 (96%), Gaps = 7/531 (1%)).

Colour illustrations. *Aloe melanocantha* in Goegap Nature Reserve, South Africa. Colony on PNA, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bar = 10 µm.

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