

*Stagonospora pseudopaludosa*





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## *Stagonospora pseudopaludosa* Crous & W.J. Swart, *sp. nov.*

*Etymology.* Named after its morphological similarity to *Stagonospora paludosa*.

*Leaf spots* angular, amphigenous, pale brown, up to 7 mm diam. *Conidiomata* immersed, globose, substomatal, black, up to 250 µm diam; wall of 3–6 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells or with 1 supporting cell. *Conidiogenous cells* hyaline, smooth, lining the inner cavity, ampulliform to subglobose, 10–20 × 5–12 µm; proliferating percurrently near apex. *Conidia* solitary, hyaline, smooth, fusoid-ellipsoid, straight to gently curved, widest in middle of conidium, apex subobtuse, base truncate (2–5 µm diam), with minute marginal frill, thick-walled, granular, with large central guttulate in each cell, (3–)5(–6)-septate, (43–)50–60(–70) × (9–)10–11(–13) µm.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies covering the dish after 2 wk at 25 °C; colonies spreading, erumpent with abundant aerial mycelium and lobate margins. Surface pale olivaceous-grey with patches of olivaceous-grey on MEA, PDA and OA.

*Typus.* SOUTH AFRICA, Free State, Bultfontein, on leaves of *Phragmites australis* (*Poaceae*), 31 Jan. 2013, W.J. Swart (holotype CBS H-21433, cultures ex-type CPC 22654–22655 = CBS 136424, ITS sequence GenBank KF777188, LSU sequence GenBank KF777239, MycoBank MB805838).

*Notes* — Morphologically, *S. pseudopaludosa* resembles *S. paludosa* (Quaedvlieg et al. 2013). However, based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Stagonospora uniseptata* (GenBank KF251767; Identities = 821/832 (99 %), no gaps), *S. pseudovitis* (GenBank KF251765; Identities = 820/832 (99 %), no gaps) and *Neottiosporina paspali* (GenBank EU754172; Identities = 822/835 (98 %), no gaps). Closest hits using the ITS sequence had highest similarity to *S. pseudovitis* (GenBank KF251262; Identities = 446/469 (95 %), Gaps = 6/469 (1 %)), *S. perfecta* (GenBank KF251258; Identities = 445/468 (95 %), Gaps = 5/468 (1 %)) and *S. cf. paludosa* (GenBank KF251254; Identities = 433/456 (95 %), Gaps = 5/456 (1 %)).

*Colour illustrations.* Symptomatic leaves of *Phragmites australis* in Bultfontein, South Africa; close-up of lesions, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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