



Fungal Planet 234 – 10 June 2014

## *Phaeophleospora parsoniae* Crous & Summerell, *sp. nov.*

*Etymology.* Named after the host genus from which it was collected, *Parsonia*.

*Leaf spots* amphigenous, grey-brown in middle, brown in outer region, angular, confined by leaf veins, 2–6 mm diam. *Conidiomata* up to 150 µm diam, pycnidial, epiphyllous, immersed, black, with central ostiole. In culture conidiomata are more acervular, up to 350 µm diam, convoluted, stromatic, irregular; outer layer with irregular, brown, verruculose hyphae; basal stroma brown, verruculose, giving rise to conidiophores; basal cells brown, verruculose, upper cells hyaline, smooth, 1–4-septate, subcylindrical, 10–25 × 2–3 µm, branched below. *Conidiogenous cells* hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, terminal and lateral, 5–15 × 2–2.5 µm, proliferating percurrently at apex, or with periclinal thickening, intermixed among paraphyses, that are branched, similar in length and at times become fertile. *Conidia* solitary, straight to slightly curved, hyaline, smooth, guttulate, subcylindrical to narrowly fusoid-ellipsoidal, widest in the middle, tapering to subobtuse apex and truncate hilum, 0.5 µm diam, (5–)6–7(–7.5) × 2(–2.5) µm.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies reaching 15 mm diam after 2 wk at 22 °C, erumpent, folded, spreading, with even, lobed margins. On PDA surface pale olivaceous-grey, reverse smoke-grey. On OA surface olivaceous-grey with vinaceous margin. On MEA surface pale olivaceous-grey, reverse iron-grey.

*Typus.* AUSTRALIA, New South Wales, Brunswick Heads Nature Reserve, S28°31'90.8" E153°32'57.0", on *Parsonia straminea* (*Apocynaceae*) leaves, 9 Mar. 2013, B.A. Summerell (holotype CBS H-21691, culture ex-type CPC 22537 = CBS 137979; ITS sequence GenBank KJ869131, LSU sequence GenBank KJ869188, MycoBank MB808906).

*Notes* — The genus *Phaeophleospora* (based on *P. eugeniae*; Crous et al. 1997) is an asexual genus in the *Mycosphaerellaceae*, which is distinct from *Teratosphaeria* (= *Kirramyces*) and *Readeriella* (Crous et al. 2009a, b). *Phaeophleospora parsoniae* was isolated from oozing white conidial cirrhi associated with leaf spots on *Parsonia straminea*. We assume that it represents a microconidial state of a *Phaeophleospora* sp. In culture and on host material, however, no macroconidia were formed, and it is allocated to *Phaeophleospora* based on phylogenetic inference.

*ITS.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence are *Septoria albopunctata* (GenBank JQ732933; Identities = 395/421 (94 %), Gaps = 6/421 (1 %)), *Mycosphaerella stromatosa* (GenBank EU167598; Identities = 446/479 (93 %), Gaps = 11/479 (2 %)) and *Mycosphaerella pseudoellipsoidea* (GenBank EU167585; Identities = 443/478 (93 %), Gaps = 8/478 (1 %)).

*LSU.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Phaeophleospora eugeniae* (GenBank FJ493206; Identities = 818/821 (99 %), no gaps), *Phaeophleospora eugeniicola* (GenBank FJ493209; Identities = 814/821 (99 %), no gaps) and *Septoria albopunctata* (GenBank JQ732982; Identities = 813/820 (99 %), no gaps).

*Colour illustrations.* Brunswick Heads Nature Reserve, New South Wales, Australia; leaf spot, ascomata, conidiophores and conidia in culture. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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