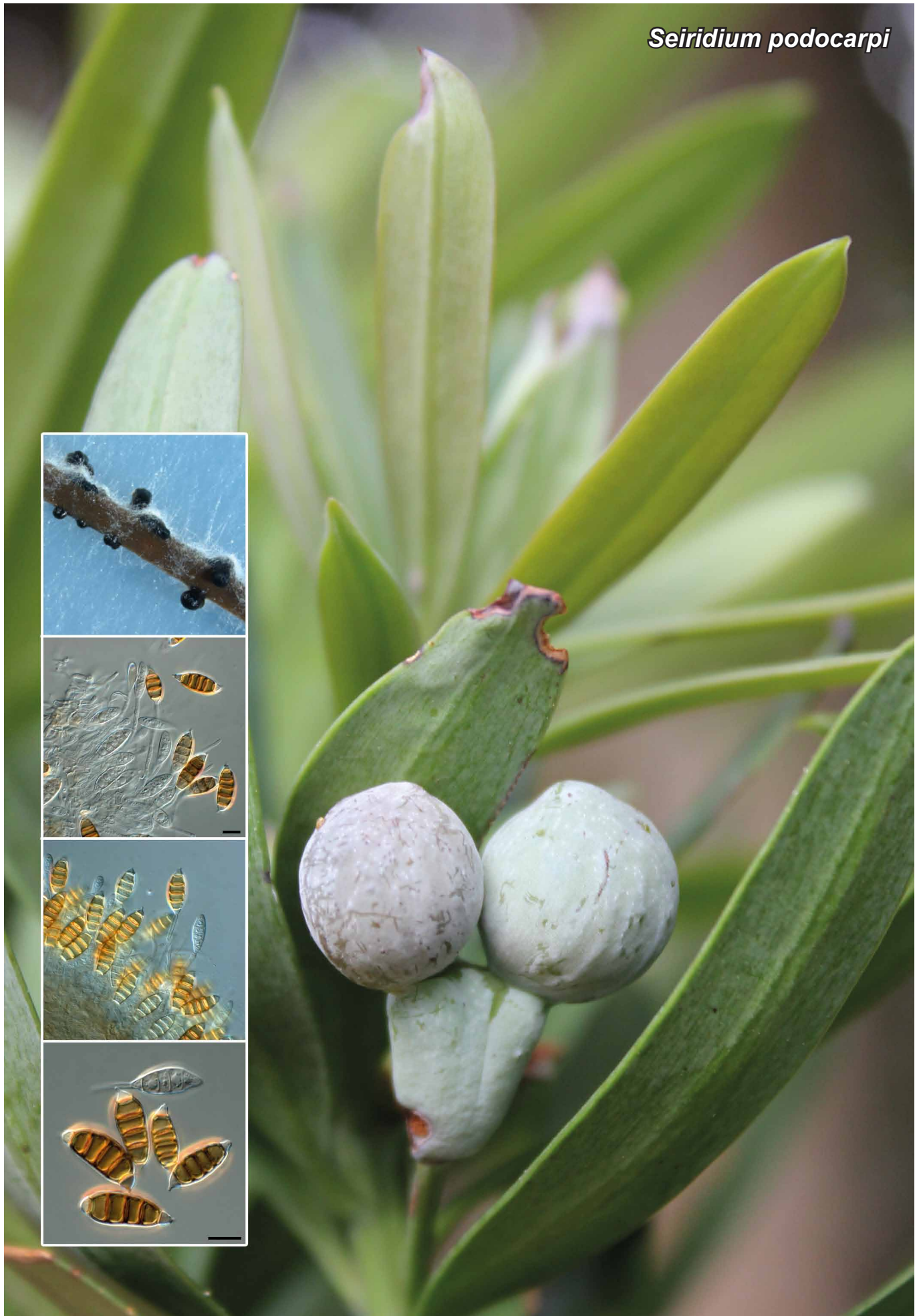


Seiridium podocarpi



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Seiridium podocarp Crous & A.R. Wood, *sp. nov.*

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

Conidiomata stromatic, separate, globose, immersed to erumpent, black, up to 300 µm diam, unilocular; walls of 3–6 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* lining the inner cavity, subcylindrical, unbranched or branched below, hyaline, 2–3-septate, smooth, up to 70 µm long. *Conidiogenous cells* discrete, integrated, subcylindrical, 10–20 × 2 µm, with several percurrent proliferations near apex. *Conidia* fusoid, wall smooth, not constricted at septa, 5-septate with central pore, guttulate, (23–)25–28(–30) × (8–)9–10 µm, wall 1.5 µm thick, with appendages; basal cell obconic, subhyaline to pale brown with a single, unbranched central appendage, 1–3 µm; apical cell broadly conical to bluntly rounded, subhyaline to pale brown with central appendage, unbranched, 1–3 µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies reaching up to 20 mm diam after 2 wk at 22 °C. On MEA erumpent, spreading, with moderate aerial mycelium and even lobate margins; surface dirty white, reverse umber. On OA dirty white. On PDA surface dirty white with black sporulation, reverse pale olivaceous-grey in centre, dirty white in outer region.

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape Province, Knysna, Garden Route National Park, Velbroeksdraai picnic site, Diepwalle Forest, S33°56' E23°09', on leaves of *Podocarpus latifolius* (*Podocarpaceae*), 1 July 2013, A.R. Wood (holotype CBS H-21709, culture ex-type CPC 23429 = CBS 137995; ITS sequence GenBank KJ869150, LSU sequence GenBank KJ869207, MycoBank MB808932).

Notes — Morphologically *S. podocarp* is comparable to *S. anceps*, *S. ceratosporum*, *S. cupressi* and *S. intermedium* (Nag Raj 1993). However, conidia of *S. anceps* (19–27 × 6.5–9 µm) are narrower and those of *S. ceratosporum* (29–35 × 10–12 µm) somewhat longer and wider. Although conidia of *C. intermedium* (22–33 × 9–11 µm) are similar in size, they differ in being more doliiform, being longitudinally striate and having shorter appendages. Conidia of *S. cupressi* (23–30 × 7–10 µm) are also similar in size but differ in having longer appendages (Nag Raj 1993).

ITS. Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence are *Seiridium phyllicae* (GenBank KF574903; Identities = 450/465 (97 %), Gaps = 6/465 (1 %)), *Seiridium cardinale* (GenBank AF409995; Identities = 542/571 (95 %), Gaps = 9/571 (1 %)) and *Seiridium cupressi* (GenBank FJ430600; Identities = 545/575 (95 %), Gaps = 9/575 (1 %)).

LSU. Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Seiridium phyllicae* (GenBank KC005807; Identities = 827/829 (99 %), no gaps), *Seiridium unicorn* (GenBank DQ414532; Identities = 822/824 (99 %), no gaps) and *Seiridium eucalypti* (GenBank DQ414533; Identities = 822/824 (99 %), no gaps).

Colour illustrations. *Podocarpus latifolius* in South Africa; conidiomata, conidiophores and conidia in culture. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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