

*Neodevriesia coryneliae*





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***Neodevriesia coryneliae* Crous & A.R. Wood, sp. nov.**

*Etymology.* Named after the fungal genus from which it was isolated, *Corynelia*.

Restricted to ascomata of *Corynelia uberata* on *Afrocarpus* leaves. Description on SNA: *mycelium* consisting of branched, septate, brown, 2–3 µm diam hyphae. *Conidiophores* arising from hyphae, erect, long, flexuous, unbranched, 100–400 × 6–10 µm, 6–25-septate, brown, verruculose, thick-walled, bearing an apical conidiogenous apparatus; conidiophore base lacking rhizoids. *Ramoconidia* fusoid-ellipsoidal, brown, 8–10 × 3–4 µm, brown, finely roughened, hila truncate, 1–1.5 µm diam, not thickened nor darkened; 1–3 apical loci giving rise to short, branched chains (–7) of conidia that have 1–3 apical loci; intermediate conidia brown, finely roughened, fusoid-ellipsoidal, 8–10 × 3–4 µm; apical conidia ellipsoid, brown, finely roughened, 6–8 × 3–4 µm, hila 1 µm diam, not thickened, nor refractive. *Conidia* ellipsoid, brown, finely roughened, 6–8 × 2–3 µm, remaining attached in chains and appearing red-brown when mounted in lactic acid.

Culture characteristics — Colonies reaching 5 mm diam after 2 wk at 22 °C. On MEA surface erumpent with sparse aerial mycelium and uneven margin; olivaceous-grey, also in reverse. On OA olivaceous-grey. On PDA pale olivaceous-grey, reverse olivaceous-grey.

*Typus.* SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape Province, Knysna, Garden Route National Park, Velbroeksdraai picnic site, Diepwalle Forest, S33°56' E23°09', on *Corynelia uberata* on leaves of *Afrocarpus falcatus* (*Podocarpaceae*), 1 July 2013, A.R. Wood (holotype CBS H-21713, culture ex-type CPC 23534 = CBS 137999; ITS sequence GenBank KJ869154, LSU sequence GenBank KJ869211, TEF sequence GenBank KJ869239, TUB sequence GenBank KJ869250, MycoBank MB808937).

*Notes* — The genus *Neodevriesia* was introduced by Quaedvlieg et al. (2014) to accommodate several foliicolous, saprobic or plant pathogenic taxa, now representing the *Neodevriesiaceae*, which Ruibal et al. (2009, 2011) referred to as '*Teratosphaeriaceae* 2'. *Neodevriesia corynelia* is the first member of the genus known to be mycophylic. In culture it proved to be extremely slow-growing, which is possibly indicative of its unique ecology.

*ITS.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence are *Teratosphaeria knoxdavisii* (GenBank EU707865; Identities = 535/573 (93 %), Gaps = 11/573 (1 %)), *Devriesia lagerstroemiae* (GenBank GU214634; Identities = 525/565 (93 %), Gaps = 11/565 (1 %)) and *Devriesia fraseriae* (GenBank HQ599602; Identities = 525/571 (92 %), Gaps = 14/571 (2 %)).

*LSU.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Devriesia xanthorrhoeae* (GenBank HQ599606; Identities = 759/773 (98 %), no gaps), *Devriesia shakazului* (GenBank KC005797; Identities = 758/773 (98 %), no gaps) and *Devriesia hilliana* (GenBank GU214414; Identities = 758/773 (98 %), no gaps).

*TEF.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hit using the TEF sequence is *Devriesia pseudoamericana* (GenBank HM177416; Identities = 119/128 (93 %), no gaps).

*TUB.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the TUB sequence are *Coniothyrium zuluense* (GenBank AY244392; Identities = 282/348 (81 %), Gaps = 18/348 (5 %)), *Teratosphaeria tinara* (GenBank FJ532027; Identities = 280/347 (81 %), Gaps = 20/347 (5 %)) and *Teratosphaeria foliensis* (GenBank FJ532015; Identities = 279/348 (80 %), Gaps = 22/348 (6 %)).

*Colour illustrations.* *Afrocarpus falcatus* tree in South Africa; conidiophore with swollen basal cell, conidiophores and conidia in culture (note diffuse reddish pigment around conidia when mounted in lactic acid). Scale bars = 10 µm.