

*Alanphillipsia aloecicola*



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## *Alanphillipsia aloecicola* Crous, sp. nov.

*Etymology.* Name reflects the host genus *Aloe*, from which the species was isolated.

*Conidiomata* pycnidial, erumpent, brown, subglobose, up to 350 µm diam with central ostiole; wall of 6–8 layers of thick-walled, brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells. *Conidiogenous cells* lining the inner cavity, hyaline, smooth, ampulliform, 15–25 × 4–6 µm, proliferating several times percurrently at apex. *Paraphyses* intermingled among conidiogenous cells, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, unbranched, septate, up to 80 µm long, 4–6 µm diam. *Conidia* solitary, thick-walled, guttulate, initially hyaline, becoming pale brown, finely verruculose, with longitudinal striations (when mature) along the length of its body, (25–)30–35(–42) × (10–)12–14(–17) µm, clavate to subcylindrical, apex obtuse, base truncate, 4–6 µm diam, with marginal frill up to 2 µm long. *Spermatial state* developing in same conidioma. *Spermatophores* tightly aggregated, hyaline, smooth, branched, subcylindrical, 15–25 × 3–4 µm. *Spermatogenous cells* terminal, subcylindrical, 8–12 × 2–3 µm. *Spermatia* hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, 3–6 × 2 µm.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies reaching 40 mm diam after 2 wk at 25 °C in the dark. On MEA flat, spreading with sparse aerial mycelium and lobed, feathery margins; surface olivaceous-grey in centre, outer region dirty white. On OA and PDA olivaceous-grey with a dirty white outer region.

*Typus.* SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape province, Clanwilliam, Ramskop, on *Aloe* sp. (*Aloaceae*), Sept. 2013, M.J. Wingfield (holotype CBS H-21978, culture ex-type CPC 23674 = CBS 138896; ITS sequence GenBank KP004444, LSU sequence GenBank KP004472, MycoBank MB810590).

*Notes* — The genus *Alanphillipsia* (*Botryosphaeriaceae*, see Phillips et al. 2013) was recently introduced to accommodate four species that are aplosporella-like in morphology, but have conidia with a hyaline outer layer. Of the three species known from *Aloe*, *A. aloecicola* is most similar to *A. aloetica* in morphology, but distinct in that conidia of *A. aloecicola* (25–)30–35(–42) × (10–)12–14(–17) µm are wider than those of *A. aloetica* (20–)30–33(–35) × (5–)6(–7) µm (Crous et al. 2013).

*ITS.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence are *Alanphillipsia aloetica* (GenBank KF777139; Identities = 568/571 (99 %), Gaps = 2/571 (0 %)), *Alanphillipsia aloeigena* (GenBank KF777137; Identities = 564/571 (99 %), Gaps = 4/571 (0 %)) and *Alanphillipsia aloes* (GenBank KF777138; Identities = 547/566 (97 %), Gaps = 9/566 (1 %)).

*LSU.* Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Alanphillipsia aloetica* (GenBank KF777195; Identities = 811/812 (99 %), no gaps), *Alanphillipsia aloeigena* (GenBank KF777193; Identities = 783/784 (99 %), no gaps) and *Alanphillipsia aloes* (GenBank KF777194; Identities = 810/812 (99 %), no gaps).

*Colour illustrations.* *Aloe* sp. in Clanwilliam; conidiogenous cells with conidia, spermatophores and spermatia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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