

Pleurophoma ossicola



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Pleurophoma ossicola Crous, Krawczynski & H.-G. Wagner, *sp. nov.*

Etymology. Name reflects the fact that it was isolated from bone.

Classification — *Lentitheciaceae*, *Pleosporales*, *Dothideo-mycetes*.

Conidiomata separate or in small clusters, immersed to erumpent, globose, brown, up to 250 µm diam, with 1–2 ostioles that are dark brown, with or without short stubby thick-walled, brown setae with blunt ends; wall of 2–3 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* subcylindrical, hyaline, smooth, branched, 1–5-septate, 20–45 × 2–3 µm. *Conidiogenous cells* hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, terminal and intercalary, 5–10 × 2–3 µm; proliferating percurrently at apex. *Conidia* solitary, hyaline, smooth, thin-walled, guttulate, ellipsoid, (3–)4(–5) × (1.5–)2 µm. *Ascumata* brown to slightly blackish, solitary, globose, erumpent, 70–90 µm diam, with central ostiole, 5–10 µm diam, wall of 2–3 layers of *textura angularis*. *Paraphyses* intermingled among asci, hyaline, smooth, septate, constricted at septa, extending above asci, up to 50 µm long and 3–5 µm diam. *Asci* fasciculate, stipitate, hyaline, ellipsoid, bitunicate containing 8 multiseriate ascospores, 30–40 × 13–15 µm and with ocular chamber, 2–3 µm diam. *Ascospores* hyaline, smooth, guttulate, obovoid, medianly 1-septate, constricted at septum, widest in the middle of apical cell, (10–)11(–12) × (4–)4.5 µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies erumpent, spreading with moderate aerial mycelium and smooth, even margins, reaching 40 mm diam after 1 mo at 25 °C. On PDA surface and reverse honey. On MEA surface dirty white, reverse cinnamon. On OA surface buff.

Typus. GERMANY, Brandenburg, former military training area Lieberose north of Cottbus, N51°55'22.85" E14°18'43.95", 75 m above sea level, at least 20 years old bone of presumed cattle (the Russian army once had its field-kitchen close to this location), on sandy soil close to the edge of a pine plantation (*Pinus sylvestris*), dominated by *Calamagrostis epigejos*, 16 July 2014, H.-G. Wagner & R. Krawczynski (holotype CBS H-22234, culture ex-type CPC 24979 = CBS 139905; ITS sequence GenBank KR476736, LSU sequence GenBank KR476769, MycoBank MB812446); CPC 24978, 24985 (ITS sequences GenBank KR476735 & KR476737, LSU sequences GenBank KR476768 & KR476770, respectively).

Colour illustrations. *Pinus sylvestris* trees in Brandenburg; bone on forest floor, with close-up showing ascumata intermixed with algae; ascumata, asci and ascospores; sporulating conidiomata, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

Notes — The genus *Pleurophoma*, which is based on *P. pleurospora* (De Gruyter et al. 2009), presently still lacks any known sexual link (De Gruyter et al. 2010). In a later study however, the application of the generic name was fixed via the designation of a lectotype (CBS 130329) (De Gruyter et al. 2013). *Pleurophoma ossicola* clusters close to *P. pleurospora*, and is best allocated to this genus. This is also the first report of a *Didymella*-like sexual morph for *Pleurophoma*. The possible link between *Pleurophoma* and *Keissleriella* deserves further investigation.

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