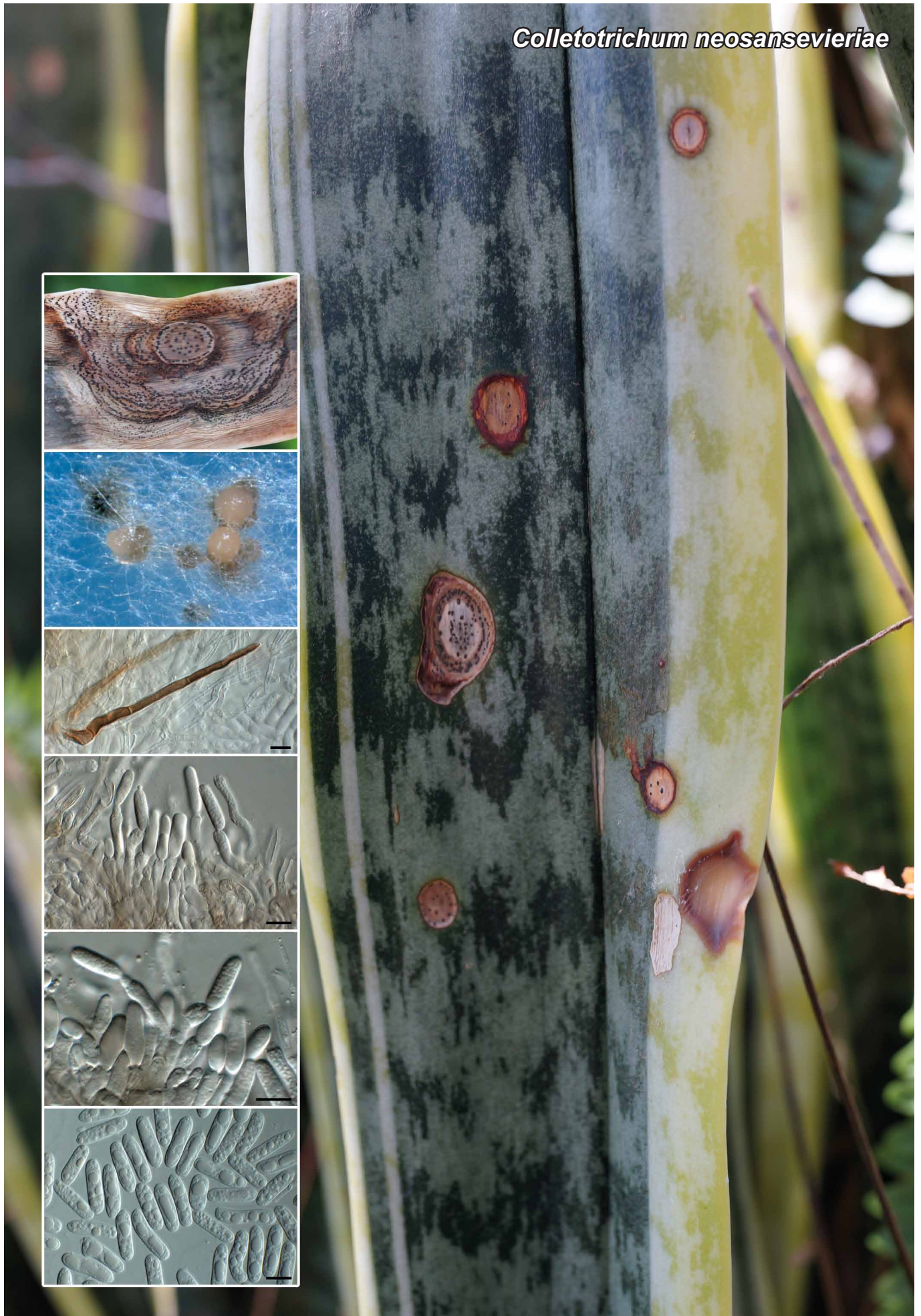


Colletotrichum neosansevieriae



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***Colletotrichum neosansevieriae* Crous & N.A. van der Merwe, sp. nov.**

Etymology. Name reflects its morphological similarity to *Colletotrichum sansevieriae*.

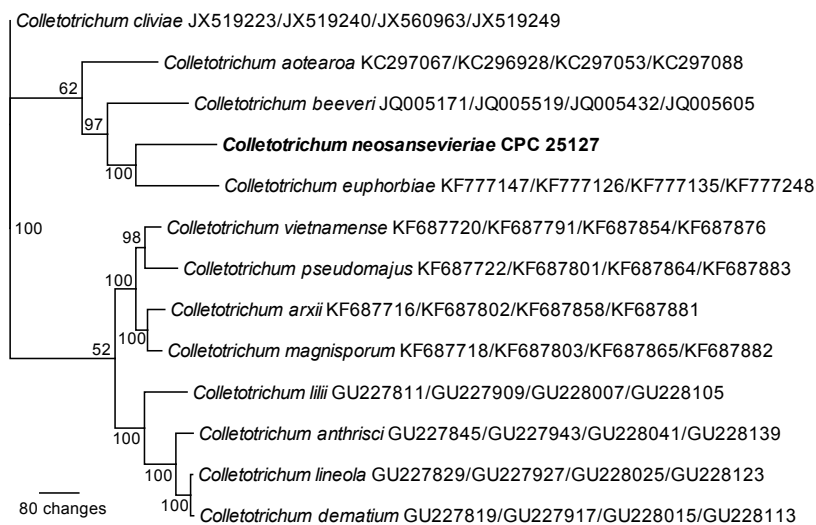
Classification — *Glomerellaceae*, *Uncinelliales*, *Sordariomycetes*.

Leaf spots large, up to 6 cm diam, subcircular, pale brown, coalescing with age, with amphigenous sporulation. On SNA. *Mycelium* consisting of branched, septate, hyaline, smooth-walled, 2–4 µm diam hyphae. *Conidiomata* up to 250 µm diam, globose to flask-shaped, opening by irregular rupture; walls of brown *textura angularis*; exuding a slimy orange conidial mass. *Setae* medium brown, verruculose, 3–7-septate, 120–200 µm long, 7–10 µm diam at base, tip acutely rounded. *Conidiophores* hyaline, smooth, 1–5-septate, branched, 30–100 × 3–5 µm. *Conidigenous cells* hyaline, smooth, cylindrical with periclinal thickening or percurrent proliferation at apex, 15–60 × 3–5 µm, apex 2 µm diam, with minute collarette. *Conidia* hyaline, smooth, guttulate, aseptate, subcylindrical, straight to slightly curved, apex obtuse, base with prominent truncate hilum, (16–)18–22(–25) × (4–)5–6 µm. *Appressoria* not observed after 3 wk.

Culture characteristics — Colonies covering dish after 1 mo at 25 °C, with moderate to woolly aerial mycelium. On MEA surface grey olivaceous, reverse dark brick. On OA surface smoke grey. On PDA surface grey olivaceous, reverse vinaceous, with zones of grey olivaceous.

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Gauteng, Kwalata Game Ranch, on leaves of *Sansevieria trifasciata* (*Asparagaceae*), 25 Sept. 2014, P.W. Crous & N.A. van der Merwe (holotype CBS H-22248, culture ex-type CPC 25127 = CBS 139918; ITS sequence GenBank KR476747, LSU sequence GenBank KR476780, ATC sequence GenBank KR476790, GAPDH sequence GenBank KR476791, HIS sequence GenBank KR476792, TUB sequence GenBank KR476797, MycoBank MB812463); CPC 25128.

Notes — A *Colletotrichum* leaf spot disease of *Sansevieria* has previously been documented from South Africa as *C. gloeosporioides* (*Glomerella cingulata*) (Crous et al. 2000). However, as recently shown, common 'morphological' species of *Colletotrichum*, such as *C. acutatum*, *C. boninense*, *C. caudatum*, *C. destructivum*, *C. gigasporum* and *C. gloeosporioides* are in fact species complexes (Cannon et al. 2012, Damm et al. 2012a, b, 2014, Weir et al. 2012, Crouch 2014, Liu et al. 2014). Other than *C. gloeosporioides*, the common species associated with anthracnose on *Sansevieria trifasciata* is *C. sansevieriae* (Nakamura et al. 2006). The latter species, as well as *C. gloeosporioides*, are phylogenetically clearly distinct from the South African pathogen, which we describe here as a new species, *C. neosansevieriae*.



Colour illustrations. Symptomatic leaf of *Sansevieria trifasciata* at Kwalata Game Ranch; colony on SNA; setae, conidigenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

Single most parsimonious tree obtained from a heuristic analysis with 100 random taxon additions and tree-bisection-reconnection algorithm using PAUP v. 4.0b10 (Swofford 2003; TL = 1 234, CI = 0.713, RI = 0.648, RC = 0.462). The alignment consisted of four partial loci, namely ITS, actin, histone H3 and beta-tubulin (GenBank accession numbers separated by slash in the tree). Bootstrap support values > 50 % from 1 000 replicates are shown at the node and the scale bar indicates the number of changes. The tree was rooted to *Colletotrichum cliviae* CBS 125375 and the novel species described in this study is indicated in **bold face**. The alignment and tree were deposited in TreeBASE (Submission ID 17580).

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