Colletotrichum ledebouriae
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Colletotrichum ledebouriae Crous & M.J. Wingf., sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to Ledebouria, the plant genus from which this fungus was collected.

Classification — Glomerellaceae, Glomerellales, Sordariomycetes.

Leaf spots circular, amphigenous, pale brown with raised dark brown border, 10–20 mm diam. Conidiomata (on pine needle agar; PNA) acervular, to 350 µm diam, conidiophores and setae on a cushion of pale brown stroma. Setae dark brown, smooth-walled, 2–4-septate, 80–120 × 5–7 µm, tapering to subacute apex. Conidiophores hyaline to pale brown, smooth-walled, septate, branched, to 50 µm tall, 4–5 µm wide. Conidiogenous cells hyaline to pale brown, smooth-walled, 15–23 × 3.5–4.5 µm. Conidia hyaline, smooth-walled, guttulate, aseptate, straight, subcylindrical, apex obtuse, base truncate with hilum 1–1.5 µm diam, (15–)17–21(–22) × (5–)6 µm.

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

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Eastern Cape Province, Haga Haga, on leaves of Ledebouria floridunda (Hyacinthaceae), Dec. 2014, M.J. Wingfield (holotype CBS H-22593, culture ex-type CPC 25671 = CBS 141284; ITS sequence GenBank KX228254.1, LSU sequence GenBank KX228306.1, actA sequence GenBank KX228357.1, his3 sequence GenBank KX228365.1, MycoBank MB817903).

Notes — Ledebouria is a genus of deciduous or weakly evergreen bulb plants that occur in Sub-Saharan Africa, but almost nothing is known regarding fungal diseases of these plants (Crous et al. 2000). As far as we could establish, this is the first record of anthracnose disease on Ledebouria. On ITS C. ledebouriae is 98 % (563/572) similar to C. sansevieriae (MAFF239721; GenBank KC790947.1). The most similar sequences based on actA and his3 are 94 % (242/257) and 93 % (346/372) to C. neosansevieriae (GenBank KR476790.1 and KR476792.1), and 90 % (230/255) and 92 % (343/371) to C. euphorbiae (GenBank KF777125.1 and KF777134.1). Conidia of C. sansevieriae are larger (12.5–(18.4)–32.5 × 2.8–(6.4)–8.8 µm; Nakamura et al. 2006) than those of C. ledebouriae, but overlap with those of C. neosansevieriae ((16–)18–22(–25) x (4–)5–6 µm; Crous et al. 2015a).