Prosopidicola albizziae
Prosopidicola albizziae Crous & M.J. Wingf., sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to Albizia, the host genus from which this fungus was collected.

Classification — Incertae sedis, Diaporthales, Sordariomycetes.

Conidiomata (on pine needle agar; PNA) pycnidial, separate or aggregated in an eustromatic stroma with one to several ostioles, mouse-grey, erumpent, to 300 µm diam; wall up to 10 layers of grey-brown textura angularis. Conidiophores reduced to conidiogenous cells. Conidiogenous cells tightly aggregated, hyaline, smooth, ampulliform, 5–12 × 3–4 µm, mono- to polyphialidic, with 1–2 apical loci with visible periclinal thickening, at times with percurrent proliferation. Conidia solitary, subhyaline to grey-brown, smooth, guttulate, straight to variously curved, ellipsoid to fusoid-ellipsoid, apex obtuse, base truncate to bluntly rounded, 1–1.5 µm diam, (5–)7–9(–11) × (2.5–)3–3.5(–4) µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies reaching up to 20–30 mm diam after 2 wk at 25 °C, with spreading, flat surface; margins uneven, feathery, and sparse to moderate aerial mycelium. On MEA, PDA and OA surface and reverse pale mouse-grey.

Typus. MALAYSIA, Sabah, Tawau, on leaves of Albizia falcataria (Fabaceae), May 2015, M.J. Wingfield (holotype CBS H-22611, culture ex-type CPC 27478 = CBS 141298; ITS sequence GenBank KX228274.1, LSU sequence GenBank KX228325.1, MycoBank MB817037); ibid., associated with stem cankers on Albizia falcataria, CPC 27484 (ITS sequence GenBank KX228275.1, LSU sequence GenBank KX228326.1, tub2 sequence GenBank KX228385.1).

Notes — Phylogenetically, CPC 27478 is identical to CPC 27484. Based on LSU sequence data, Prosopidicola albizziae is 99 % (807/815) similar to P. mexicana, which was regarded as a potential biocontrol agent of Prosopis glandulosa, causing a pod disease of this host in Mexico and the USA (Texas) (Lennox et al. 2004). However, on ITS the two species are only 84 % (512/607) similar. Morphologically, P. albizziae has smaller conidia than those of P. mexicana, (8–)10–13(–20) × (3.5–)4.5–5.5(–6) µm. Prosopidicola was noted to have conidiogenous cells that vary from being phialidic with periclinal thickening, or with prominent percurrent proliferation, becoming darkened at the apex (Lennox et al. 2004).