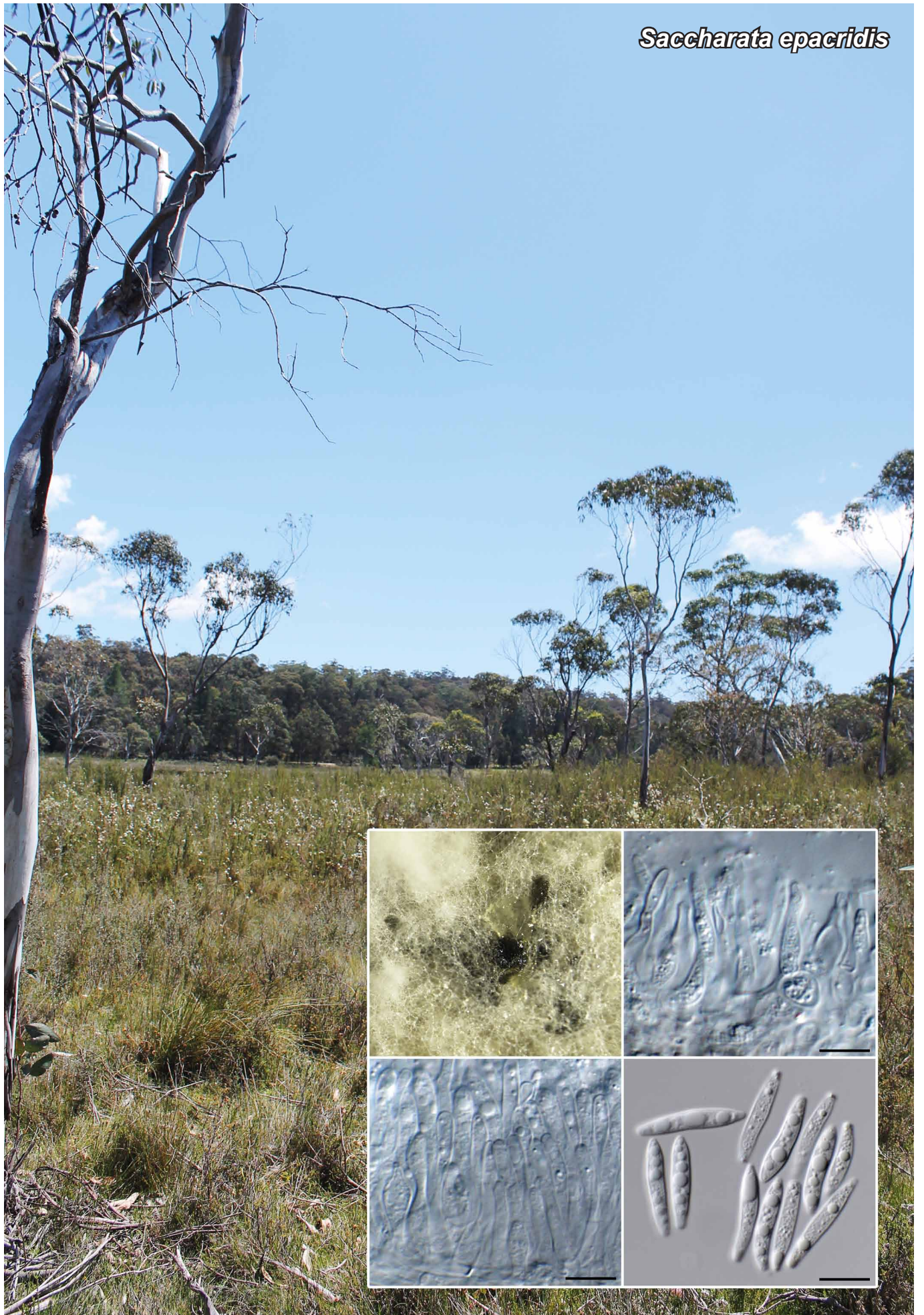


Saccharata epacridis



Fungal Planet 691 – 20 December 2017

Saccharata epacridis Crous, *sp. nov.*

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

Classification — *Saccharataceae*, *Botryosphaerales*, *Dothideomycetes*.

Conidiomata pycnidial, globose, erumpent, dark brown, 200–250 µm diam, with central ostiole; wall of 3–8 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* lining the inner cavity, hyaline, smooth, 0–2-septate, subcylindrical, branched, 15–30 × 3–4 µm. *Conidiogenous cells* terminal and intercalary, subcylindrical, hyaline, smooth, 10–15 × 3–4 µm, proliferating percurrently at apex. *Conidia* solitary, hyaline, smooth, aseptate, fusoid-ellipsoid, guttulate, apex subacutely rounded, base truncate, 1–2 µm diam, (17–)20–22(–25) × (3–)3.5(–4) µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies flat, spreading, with sparse to moderate aerial mycelium and smooth, lobate margins, covering dish after 2 wk at 25 °C. On MEA surface dirty white, reverse saffron. On PDA surface dirty white, reverse olivaceous grey. On OA surface saffron.

Typus. AUSTRALIA, Victoria, Mount Best Tin Mine Road, on *Epacris* sp. (*Ericaceae*), 28 Nov. 2016, P.W. Crous (holotype CBS H-23299, culture ex-type CPC 32594 = CBS 143408, ITS and LSU sequences GenBank MG386060 and MG386113, MycoBank MB823408).

Notes — *Saccharata epacridis* (conidia aseptate, (17–)20–22(–25) × (3–)3.5(–4) µm) is phylogenetically related to *S. lambertiae* (conidia (0–)1(–2)-septate, (9–)20–23(–25) × (4–)5–6(–7) µm) and *S. petrophiles* (conidia aseptate, (15–)28–33(–35) × (4.5–)5(–5.5) µm; Crous et al. 2016a), but can be distinguished based on conidium morphology and DNA phylogeny.

Based on a megablast search using the ITS sequence, the closest matches in NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database were *Saccharata* 'sp. 1' (GenBank JN225922; Identities 499/502 (99 %), no gaps), *S. kirstenboschensis* (GenBank NR_137021; Identities 488/504 (97 %), 2 gaps (0 %)) and *S. lambertiae* (GenBank KY173459; Identities 465/482 (96 %), no gaps). The highest similarities using the LSU sequence were *S. lambertiae* (GenBank KY173549; Identities 826/827 (99 %), no gaps), *S. petrophiles* (GenBank KY173553; Identities 804/805 (99 %), no gaps) and *S. proteae* (GenBank KX464546; Identities 845/849 (99 %), no gaps).

Colour illustrations. Mount Best Tin Mine Road; conidiomata sporulating on OA, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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