Mycosphaerella valgourgensis
**Mycosphaerella valgourgensis** Crous, sp. nov.

*Mycosphaerellaceae* deightonii similis, sed ascosporus majoribus, (13–)17–19(–22) × (3.5–)4.5–5.0 µm, discernitur.

**Etymology.** Named after the town where it was collected, Valgourge.

*Leaf spots* ellipsoid to subcircular, amphigenous, dark brown with a raised border, up to 3 cm long, and 1 cm diam. *Ascostroma* amphigenous, up to 500 µm diam, black, erumpent through epidermis, containing several ascomata up to 180 µm diam, thick-walled, of several layers of textura angularis; stroma central, periphysate. Ascii fusiform, broadly ellipsoid, straight to incurved, bitunicate, 8–spored, with apical chamber, 40–50 × 8–10 µm. Ascospores hyaline, smooth, fusoid-ellipsoidal, 10–20 × 3–4 µm. Conidiomata consisting of hyaline, smooth, septate, branched, 2–3 µm diam hyphae. Conidiogenous cells holoblastic, terminal on hyphae, hyaline, subcylindrical, smooth, 10–20 × 3–4 µm. Conidia solitary, subcylindrical to narrowly obclavate, straight to flexuous, apex obtuse, base truncate, multisepitate, 45–150 × 3–4 µm; hila truncate, not thickened or darkened, with visible marginal frill; with age conidia tend to become pale olivaceous and finely verruculose.

**Culture characteristics** — (in the dark, 25 °C, after 2 wk): Colonies slow growing, erumpent, with folded surface and sparse aerial mycelium; margins even, lobate, reaching 4 mm diam after 2 wk; on malt extract agar surface pale olivaceous grey, with diffuse red pigment and crystals in agar; on oatmeal agar surface smoke-grey with patches of scarlet due to diffuse red pigment and crystals; on potato-dextrose agar surface olivaceous grey, reverse umber; on malt extract agar surface pale olivaceous grey, reverse iron-grey; on malt extract agar from both ends, with germ tubes parallel to the long axis of the spore, and lateral branches also developing, becoming constricted at median septum, but remaining hyaline, 5–6 µm diam. Hyphomycete anamorph also developing, becoming constricted at median septum, but maintaining tubes parallel to the long axis of the spore, 10–20 × 3–4 µm. Ascospores germinate after 24 h on malt extract agar from both ends, with germ tubes parallel to the long axis of the spore, and lateral branches also developing, becoming constricted at median septum, but remaining hyaline, 5–6 µm diam. Hyphomycete anamorph formed in culture. Mycelium consisting of hyaline, smooth, septate, branched, 2–3 µm diam hyphae. Conidiogenous cells holoblastic, terminal on hyphae, hyaline, subcylindrical, smooth, 10–20 × 3–4 µm. Conidia solitary, subcylindrical to narrowly obclavate, straight to flexuous, apex obtuse, base truncate, multisepitate, 45–150 × 3–4 µm; hila truncate, not thickened or darkened, with visible marginal frill; with age conidia tend to become pale olivaceous and finely verruculose.

**Notes** — Several species of *Mycosphaerella* are listed from *Yucca* by Aptroot (2006). *Mycosphaerella sphaerelloides* (type could not be located; Aptroot 2006), was seen as a synonym of *Mycosphaerella tassiana* (now Davidiella) by von Arx (1949). *Mycosphaerella yuccae* was shown to be a species of *Guignardia* (Aptroot 2006), while *M. yuccae* appeared to be a possible species of *Dothidea* (immature specimen) (Aptroot 2006). Two species relevant for comparison to *M. valgourgensis* are *M. acervata* (= *Planistromella acervata*), which has larger asco-