

Setridium banksiae



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***Seiridium banksiae* Crous & Summerell, sp. nov.**

Seiridium cardinalis simile, sed conidiis majoribus, (24–)27–30(–35) × (11–)12–13(–14) μm, discernitur.

Etymology. Named after the host from which it was isolated, *Banksia marginata*.

Leaf spots amphigenous, circular to subcircular, medium brown on upper surface, with grey central region and black conidiomata; lower surface dirty white due to leaf hairs. **Conidiomata** stromatic, acervular, amphigenous, intraepidermal, oval to ellipsoid, up to 200 μm diam; wall of *textura angularis*. **Conidiphores** lining the basal cavity, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, 0–2-septate, unbranched, or branched below, 10–20 × 5–8 μm. **Conidiogenous cells** discrete, subcylindrical, hyaline, smooth, 10–15 × 3–4 μm, with minute apical periclinal thickening, proliferating 1–2 times percurrently. **Conidia** fusiform, straight to slightly curved, (24–)27–30(–35) × (11–)12–13(–14) μm, 3-distoseptate with visible septal pores, medium brown, verruculose, thick-walled; apical cell attenuated towards apex; basal cell lacking appendage, truncate, 3–4 μm diam, at times with minute marginal frill.

Culture characteristics — (in the dark, 25 °C, after 2 wk): Colonies flat, spreading, with sparse aerial mycelium and feathery, lobate margin; reaching 60 mm diam after 2 wk. On all media mouse-grey in centre, dirty white in outer region..

Typus. AUSTRALIA, Tasmania, Crescent Bay, S 43°11'29.7" E 147°51'00.7" on leaves of *Banksia marginata* (*Proteaceae*), 14 Oct. 2006, B.A. Summerell & P. Summerell, holotype CBS H-20756, cultures ex-type CPC 13637 = CBS 131308, ITS sequence GenBank JQ044422 and LSU sequence GenBank JQ044442, MycoBank MB560698.

Notes — Although Crous et al. (2004) recorded some *Seiridium* spp. from *Proteaceae*, the first taxon described from this family was *S. proteae* (Marincowitz et al. 2008). *Seiridium banksiae* is rather distinct from *S. proteae* and the taxa treated by Sutton (1980) and Nag Raj (1993) based on its 3-septate conidia with attenuated apical cells, and conidial dimensions. A megablast search of the NCBI's GenBank nucleotide sequence database using the ITS sequence of *S. banksiae* retrieves as closest hits *Discostroma fuscellum* (*Xylariales*, *Amphisphaeriaceae*; GenBank JF320818; Identities = 538/569 (95 %), Gaps = 8/569 (1 %)) and *Seimatosporium parasiticum* (*Xylariales*, *Amphisphaeriaceae*; GenBank AB594808; Identities = 524/556 (94 %), Gaps = 8/556 (1 %)), amongst others. A megablast search of the NCBI's GenBank nucleotide sequence database using the LSU sequence of *S. banksiae* retrieves as closest hits *Seiridium ceratosporum* (*Xylariales*, *Amphisphaeriaceae*; GenBank DQ534043; Identities = 807/842 (96 %), Gaps = 6/842 (1 %)), *Robillarda sessilis* (*incertae sedis*; GenBank FJ825378; Identities = 785/821 (96 %), Gaps = 5/821 (1 %)) and *Monochaetia kansensis* (*Xylariales*, *Amphisphaeriaceae*; GenBank DQ534037; Identities = 802/841 (95 %), Gaps = 4/841 (0 %)), amongst others. *Seiridium banksiae* clusters somewhat apart from other species of *Seiridium*, and it is probably not congeneric with the type species (*S. marginatum*) of the genus. The latter, however, is presently not known from culture, and needs to be recollected.

Colour illustrations. Coastline of Tasmania; sporulation on oatmeal agar; conidiogenous cells giving rise to conidia; conidia. Scale bars = 10 μm.

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