

***Phaeosphaeriopsis musae* M. Arzanlou & Crous, sp. nov.****Mycobank:** MB501011.**Anamorph:** *Phaeoseptoria musae* Punith., Kew Bull. 31: 469. 1977.**Latin diagnosis:** Ascospores fusoid-ellipsoideae, 3-septatae, brunneae, verruculosae, (15–)17–19(–21) × (3.5–)4 µm; anamorphe *Phaeoseptoriae musae* formans in vitro.**Description:** *Leaf spots* amphigenous, but more prominent on the upper leaf surface, pale brown to grey, surrounded by a dark brown margin, irregular, elongated, up to 6 mm wide. *Ascomata* amphigenous, occurring separately, or on older lesions in association with other leaf spot pathogens. *Ascomata* brown, up to 130 µm diam; wall consisting of 2–3 layers of brown cells of *textura angularis*. *Asci* bitunicate, subcylindrical, stipitate, fasciculate, 8-spored, 38–60 × 7–8 µm. *Pseudoparaphyses* intermingled among asci, hyaline, branched, septate, 1–2 µm diam. *Ascospores* fusoid-ellipsoidal with obtuse ends, widest in the cell above the primary septum, 3-septate, brown, verruculose, guttulate, (15–)17–19(–21) × (3.5–)4 µm. *Ascospores* germinating predominantly from polar ends, with germ tubes growing down into the agar; germinating spores distorting, becoming up to 8 µm wide. *Conidiomata* pycnidial, brown, formed in and on agar surface, up to 300 µm diam. *Conidiogenous cells* ampulliform to doliiform, hyaline to pale brown, proliferating percurrently, 5–7 × 3–5 µm. *Conidia* obclavate, apex subacutely rounded, base obconically subtruncate, 1–4-septate, pale brown, smooth, (17–)20–30(–35) × (2–)3–4 µm.**Cultural characteristics:** Colonies flat, spreading, with sparse to moderate aerial mycelium; margins smooth, regular. Colonies isabelline on 2 % malt extract agar (MEA; Oxoid)<sup>1</sup>, with sepia outer zone, and sepia in reverse; colonies reaching 30 mm diam after 1 month on MEA at 25 °C; colonies fertile, producing the anamorph in culture.**Typus:** Mauritius, on leaves of *Musa* sp., 1 Jan. 2005, collected by Y. Jaufeerally-Fakim, CBS-H 19777, **holotypus**; cultures ex-type CPC 11237 = CBS 120026, CPC 11238–11239.**Notes:** This species is commonly isolated from leaf spots of banana, where it is assumed to be a weak pathogen or secondary invader. It has been isolated from lesions associated with *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* M. Morelet, *M. musicola* R. Leach ex J.L. Mulder, *M. eumusae* Crous & Mour., *Sphaerulina musae* T.Y. Lin & J.M. Yen, and *Cordana musae* (Zimm.) Höhn. It appears to be widely distributed with the host, and probably occurs in most countries where bananas are cultivated.The genus *Phaeosphaeriopsis* M.P.S. Câmara, M.E. Palm & A.W. Ramaley was recently established for *Paraphaeosphaeria*-like species with 4–5-septate ascospores, and *Coniothyrium*-like or *Phaeostagonospora*-like anamorphs<sup>2</sup>. Although *P. musae* does not have 4–5-septate ascospores, its *Phaeoseptoria* Speg. anamorph is similar to those accommodated in *Phaeostagonospora* A.W. Ramaley. *Phaeosphaeriopsis musae* also resides with others presently placed in *Phaeosphaeriopsis* based on its nucleotide sequence data.BLASTn results of the ITS sequence of *P. musae* (GenBank DQ885894) had an E-value of 0.0 with the ITS sequence of a *Phaeoseptoria* sp. (AF439470; 99 % identical), *Phaeosphaeria oryzae* I. Miyake (AF439495; 98 % identical) and a *Phaeosphaeria* sp. (DQ092527; 93 % identical).**Colour illustrations:** Banana plantation of *Musa acuminata* in southern Africa (A. Viljoen); ascomata on necrotic leaf tissue (black dots); asci with ascospores; conidia (P.W. Crous). Scale bars = 10 µm.**References:** <sup>1</sup>Gams W, Hoekstra ES, Aptroot A (eds) (1998). *CBS course of mycology* 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Baarn, Delft, Netherlands. <sup>2</sup>Câmara MPS, Ramaley AW, Castlebury LA, Palm ME (2003). *Neophaeosphaeria* and *Phaeosphaeriopsis*, segregates of *Paraphaeosphaeria*. *Mycological Research* **107**: 516–522.

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*Phaeosphaeriopsis musea*

