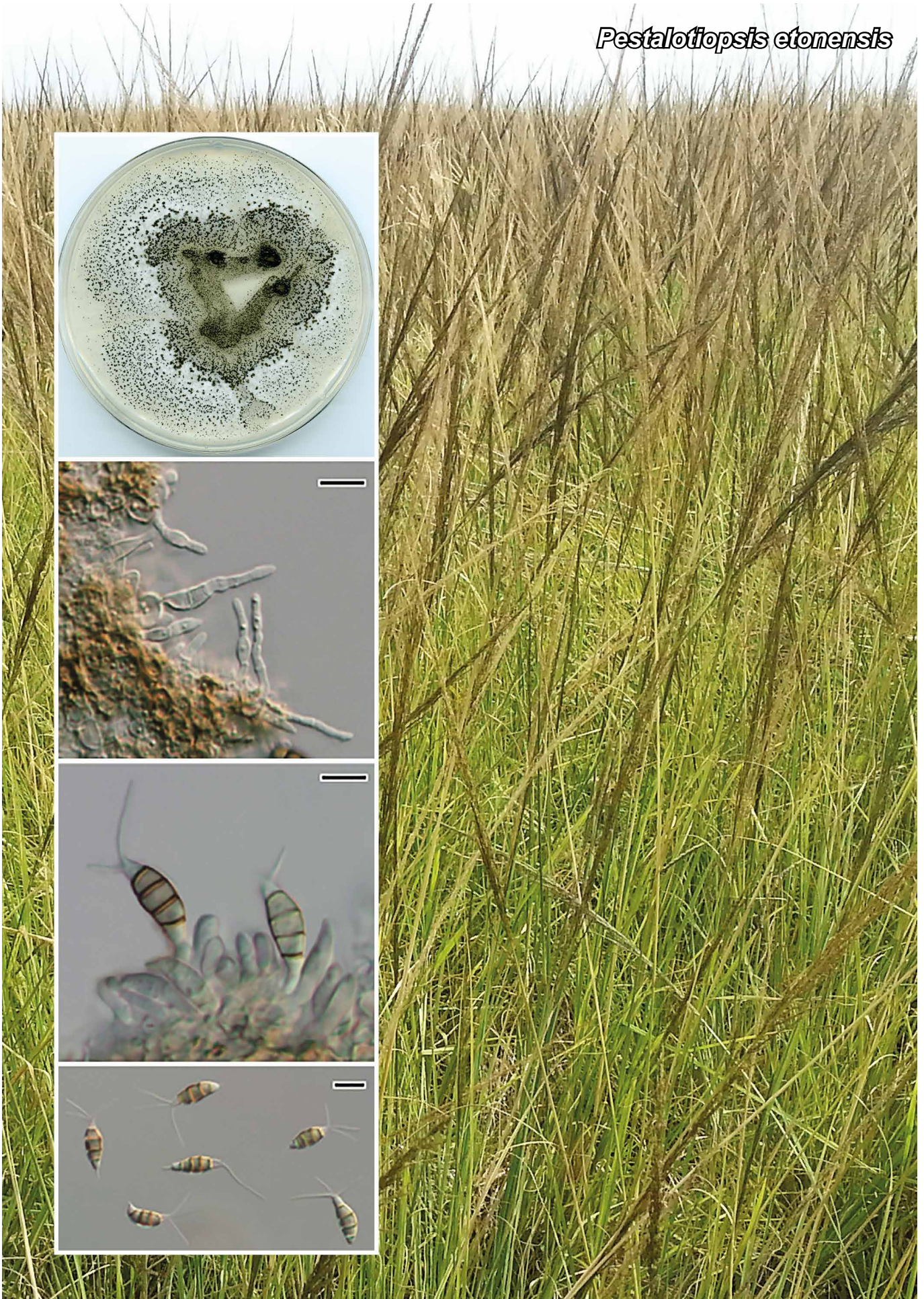


*Pestalotiopsis etonensis*



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***Pestalotiopsis etonensis*** C. Lock, Vitelli, Holdom, Y.P. Tan & R.G. Shivas, *sp. nov.*

*Etymology.* Named after the town of Eton in Queensland, where the fungus was first collected.

*Classification* — *Pestalotiopsidaceae*, *Xylariales*, *Sordariomycetes*.

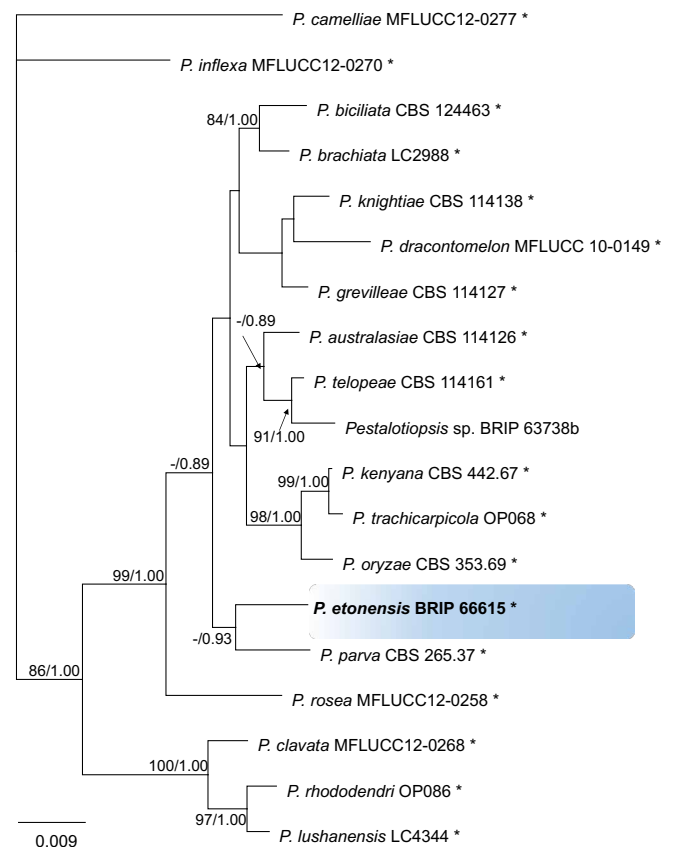
*Conidiomata* pycnidial on 1/2 potato dextrose agar (PDA), globose or clavate, scattered or aggregated, immersed or semi-immersed, dark brown to black, up to 470 µm diam; exuding dark brown to black conidial masses. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells. *Conidiogenous cells* discrete, cylindrical, hyaline, smooth, 5–10 × 1–2 µm. *Conidia* fusoid, cylindrical, straight to slightly curved, 4-septate, 15–21 × 4–7 µm, basal cell conic, hyaline, smooth and thin-walled, 2–5 µm long; three median cells doliform, 10–15 µm long, smooth, concolourous, septa darker than the rest of the cell (second cell from base 3–5.5 µm long; third cell 3–4.5 µm long; fourth cell 3.5–6 µm long); apical cell 1.5–4.5 µm long, hyaline, conic, thin-walled, smooth; with three tubular apical appendages, unbranched, filiform, 6–16 µm; basal appendage tubular, centric, 2–4.5 µm long. *Sexual morph* not seen.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies on PDA after 7 d 8 cm diam, adpressed with no aerial mycelium, margin entire, dark tan in the centre becoming lighter towards the margin, with dark radial striations in the middle part.

*Typus.* AUSTRALIA, Queensland, Eton, Homebush Road, 1.2 km SE of Eton 4741, S21°16'24" E148°58'45", from leaves of *Sporobolus jacquemontii* (*Poaceae*), 07 Feb. 2017, J. Vitelli (holotype BRIP 66615, includes ex-type culture; ITS, *tub2* and *tef1a* sequences GenBank MK966339, MK977634 and MK977635, MycoBank MB831166).

*Colour illustrations.* Dense infestation of *Sporobolus natalensis* near collection site. Conidiomata sporulating on PDA; conidiogenous cells; conidia. Scale bars = 200 µm (conidiomata) and 10 µm (conidiogenous cells and conidia).

*Notes* — The multilocus phylogenetic analysis placed *P. etonensis* in a well-supported clade with *P. parva*. Based on a BLASTn search, *P. etonensis* differs from *P. parva* in ITS (GenBank NR\_145237; Identities = 590/594 (99 %), 1 gap (0 %)), *tub2* (GenBank KM199405; Identities = 742/760 (98 %), 3 gaps (0 %)) and *tef1a* (GenBank KM199509; Identities = 468/478 (98 %), 1 gap (0 %)). Morphologically, *P. etonensis* conidia size and shape is indistinguishable from *P. parva* (fusoid, straight to slightly curved, 4-septate, 16–21 × 5–7 µm; Maharachchikumbura et al. 2014). Geographically, *P. etonensis* is only known from one location in Australia, while the origin and distribution of *P. parva* is unknown (Maharachchikumbura et al. 2014). *Pestalotiopsis etonensis* has only been isolated from *Sporobolus jacquemontii* in Australia, while *P. parva* is known from *Delonix regia* (*Caesalpinaceae*) and *Leucothoe fontanesiana* (*Ericaceae*) (Maharachchikumbura et al. 2014).



Phylogenetic tree based on the Maximum Likelihood analysis from the combined ITS, *tef1a* and *tub2* sequence alignment. Analyses were done on the Geneious v. 11.1.2 platform (Biomatters Ltd.) using RAXML v. 8.2.11 (Stamatakis & Alachiotis 2010) and MrBayes v. 3.2.6 (Ronquist & Huelsenbeck 2003), both based on the GTR substitution model with gamma-distribution rate variation. Branch lengths are proportional to distance. RAXML bootstrap (bs) values > 70 % and Bayesian posterior probabilities (pp) > 0.8 are given at the nodes (bs/pp). *Pestalotiopsis camelliae* was used as outgroup. Novel taxon is indicated in **bold**. Ex-type strains are marked with an asterisk (\*).

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