

Neocamarosporium leipoldtiae



Fungal Planet 1124 – 19 December 2020

Neocamarosporium leipoldtiae Crous, sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to the host genus *Leipoldtia* from which it was isolated.

Classification — *Neocamarosporiaceae*, *Pleosporales*, *Dothideomycetes*.

Conidiomata solitary, erumpent, globose, 200–300 µm diam, with central ostiole; wall covered by brown, verruculose hyphae, 3–4 µm diam; wall consisting of 6–8 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells or with a supporting cell, lining the inner cavity, hyaline, smooth, ampulliform with long cylindrical apical part, proliferating percurrently near apex, 12–35 × 5–7 µm. *Conidia* solitary, medium brown, ellipsoid to subcylindrical, apex obtuse, base truncate, muriformly septate, with 3–6 transverse septa, 2–6 oblique or vertical septa, thick-walled, surface roughened, 18–20(–21) × 7(–8) µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies with abundant aerial mycelium and smooth, even margin, covering dish after 2 wk at 25 °C. On MEA, PDA and OA surface and reverse iron-grey.

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape Province, Nieuwoudtville, on leaves of *Leipoldtia schultzei* (*Aizoaceae*), 2018, P.W. Crous, HPC 3024 (holotype CBS H-24418, culture ex-type CPC 38531 = CBS 146774, ITS, LSU and *tub2* sequences GenBank MW175346.1, MW175386.1 and MW173137.1, MycoBank MB837838).

Notes — *Neocamarosporium* was established for a genus of camarosporium-like fungi occurring on dying leaves of a *Mesembryanthemum* sp. (*Aizoaceae*) (Crous et al. 2014). *Neocamarosporium leipoldtiae* was collected in the same area, again occurring on a member of the *Aizoaceae*. Phylogenetically, however, it is closely related to *Neocamarosporium salicornicola*, described from *Salicornia* sp. (*Amaranthaceae*) collected in Thailand (Wanasinghe et al. 2017).

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the **ITS** sequence had highest similarity to *Neocamarosporium* sp. (strain CF-288928, GenBank MG065823.1; Identities = 544/554 (98 %), one gap (0 %)), *Pleosporales* sp. 6 PV-2016 (strain DW, GenBank KU933734.1; Identities = 534/544 (98 %), two gaps (0 %)), and *Neocamarosporium salicornicola* (strain ZMCS3, GenBank MK809918.1; Identities = 509/520 (98 %), two gaps (0 %)). Closest hits using the **LSU** sequence are *Neocamarosporium chichastianum* (strain CBS 137502, GenBank KP004483.1; Identities = 848/853 (99 %), no gaps), *Neocamarosporium salicornicola* (strain MFLUCC 15-0957, GenBank MF434281.1; Identities = 842/848 (99 %), no gaps), and *Chaetosphaeroma hispidulum* (strain CBS 826.88, GenBank EU754145.1; Identities = 862/870 (99 %), no gaps). Closest hits using the **tub2** sequence had highest similarity to *Neocamarosporium calvescens* (strain T7711, GenBank MK140511.1; Identities = 265/289 (92 %), one gap (0 %)), *Phoma betae* (strain CBS 109410, GenBank MK255063.1; Identities = 284/311 (91 %), seven gaps (2 %)) and *Dimorphosporicola tragani* (strain CBS 570.85, GenBank KU728616.1; Identities = 412/478 (86 %), 22 gaps (4 %)).

Colour illustrations. Flowers of *Leipoldtia schultzei*. Conidiomata on MEA with central ostiole; conidiogenous cells giving rise to conidia; conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.