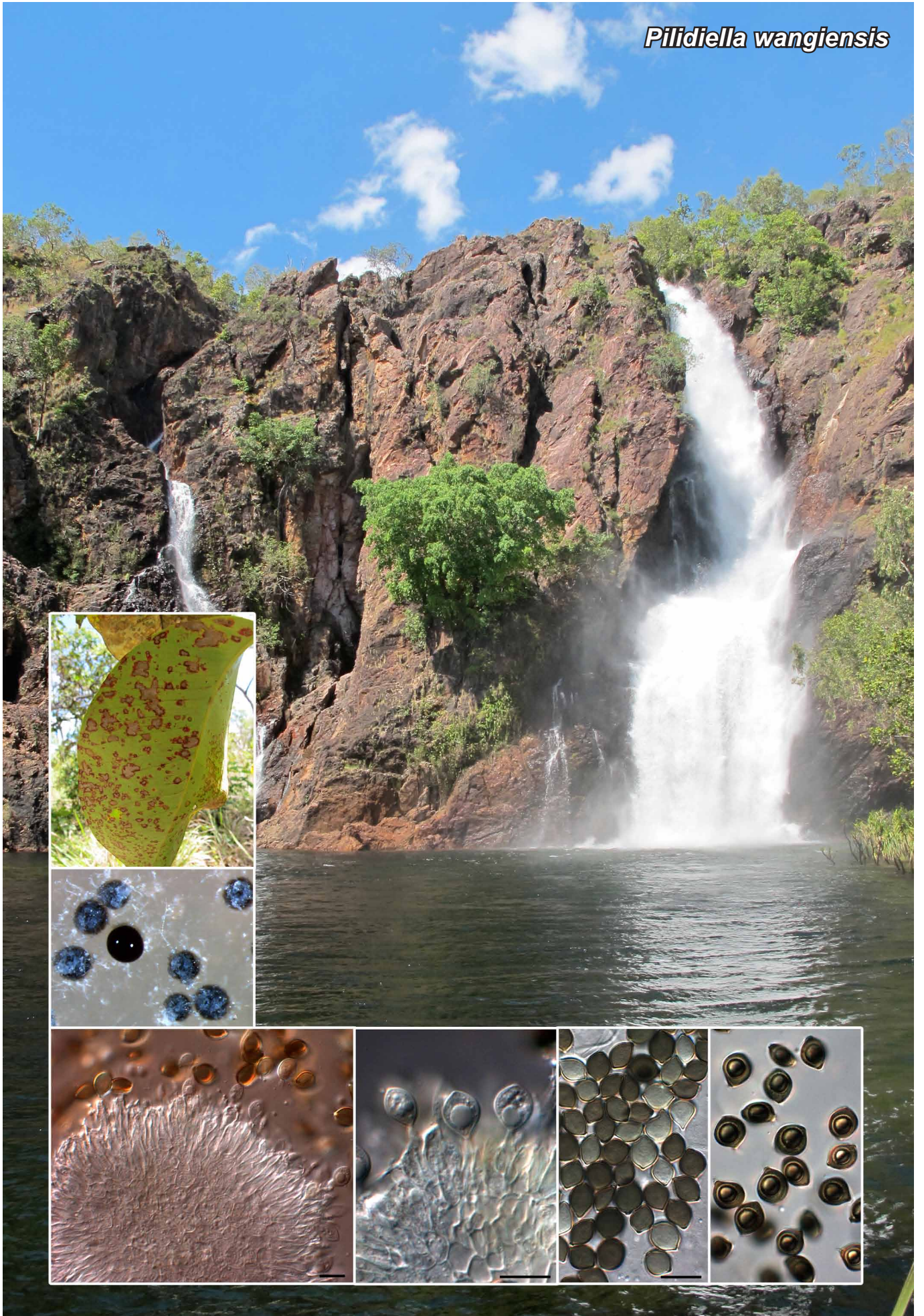


Pilidiella wangiensis



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***Pilidiella wangiensis* Crous & Summerell, sp. nov.**

Etymology. Named after Wangi Falls in Australia, where this fungus was collected.

Leaf spots large, circular, brown, up to 20 mm diam, with red-brown margins. *Colonies* on OA. *Conidiomata* pycnidial, amphigenous, solitary, globose, up to 200 µm diam; wall composed on dark brown *textura angularis*, of 2–4 layers, 7–10 µm thick, pale to dark brown; ostiole central. *Conidiophores* formed on a central cushion of hyaline cells, mostly reduced to conidiogenous cells, subcylindrical, branched below, 15–30 × 3–5 µm, smooth, hyaline, 1–2-septate. *Conidiogenous cells* phialidic with apical periclinal thickening, or percurrent proliferation, 15–20 × 3–4 µm, smooth, hyaline, with minute collarette, and invested in mucilage. *Conidia* (9–)10–11(–13) × (7–)8–9(–10) µm, broadly ellipsoidal to globose, apiculate, granular with central guttule, hyaline, becoming medium brown, frequently with minute basal cellular appendage, hyaline, cylindrical, 1–2 µm long; conidia at times flattened along one side, or collapsing with age; apex tapering to an apiculus, 1–2 µm diam, base tapering to a truncate hilum, 1–1.5 µm diam.

Culture characteristics — (in the dark, 25 °C, after 3 wk): Colonies flat, spreading, with moderate aerial mycelium, covering dish. Surface on MEA, OA, and PDA dirty white with patches of black sporulation; reverse dirty white with iron-grey zones due to sporulation, but on MEA bright orange with patches of olivaceous grey.

Typus. AUSTRALIA, Northern Territory, Litchfield National Park, Wangi Falls, on leaves of *Eucalyptus* sp. (*Myrtaceae*), 24 Apr. 2011, P.W. Crous & B.A. Summerell, holotype CBS H-20969, cultures ex-type CPC 19398, 19397 = CBS 132530, ITS sequence GenBank JX069873 and LSU sequence GenBank JX069857, MycoBank MB800391.

Notes — The first phylogenetic overview of the genera *Coniella* and *Pilidiella* was published by van Niekerk et al. (2004). Since then, several additional species have been added to this complex (Rajeshkumar et al. 2011, Miranda et al. 2012). Morphologically *P. wangiensis* is most similar to *Coniella australiensis* (conidia 10–14 × 7–11 µm; *Pelargonium australe*, Australia) (Sutton 1980), but differs in having somewhat smaller conidia (9–13 × 7–10 µm), and having an apical apiculus, which is lacking in *C. australiensis*.

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hit using the ITS sequence is *Coniella granati* (GenBank HQ166057; Identities = 582/629 (93 %), Gaps = 31/629 (5 %)), followed by *Pilidiella eucalyptorum* (GenBank EU301050; Identities = 556/600 (93 %), Gaps = 21/600 (4 %)), and *Pilidiella quercicola* (GenBank AY339345; Identities = 545/586 (93 %), Gaps = 28/586 (5 %)). Closest hits using the LSU sequence yielded highest similarity with species of *Harknessia*, e.g. *Harknessia fusiformis* (GenBank JQ706221; Identities = 877/890 (99 %), Gaps = 4/890 (0 %)), *Pilidiella eucalyptorum* (GenBank AF408391; Identities = 860/876 (98 %), Gaps = 0/876 (0 %)), and *Pilidiella granati* (GenBank AF408380; Identities = 861/877 (98 %), Gaps = 1/877 (0 %)).

Colour illustrations. Wangi Falls, Litchfield National Park, Northern Territory; symptomatic *Eucalyptus* leaf; conidiomata forming on oatmeal agar; cushion of conidiogenous cells; conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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