

*Cyphellophora catalaunica*



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## *Cyphellophora catalaunica* Madrid, Gené, Guarro & Crous, *sp. nov.*

*Etymology.* The name refers to the Spanish autonomic community where the fungus was collected, Catalonia.

*Vegetative hyphae* septate, branched, pale olivaceous to pale brown, smooth- and thin-walled, 1–2.5 µm wide, often forming strands and coils. Distinct conidiophores absent. *Conidiogenous cells* intercalary, monophialidic, cylindrical, 2–3 µm wide, with a lateral neck, 1.5–4.5 × 1–2 µm, bearing a conspicuous collarete. *Conidia* acicular, straight to curved, 0–3-septate, subhyaline to pale olivaceous brown, smooth and thin-walled, (11–)15.5–26(–28) × 1.5–2 µm.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies on OA attaining 12 mm after 14 d at 24 °C, creamy to mucoid, yeast-like, funiculose at the centre, dark olivaceous-grey with a pale grey, regular margin; reverse dark olivaceous-grey. Optimum growth temperature 24 °C, minimum below 6 °C, maximum between 27 and 30 °C.

*Typus.* SPAIN, Girona Province, sediments of Ter river, Pals beach, July 1991, J. Gené (holotype CBS H-21383, culture ex-type CPC 22929 = FMR 3992, MycoBank MB805277).

*Notes* — The genus *Cyphellophora* currently includes 17 species, eight of which are clinically-relevant and are mainly reported from mild skin and nail infections of humans (de Hoog et al. 2000, Feng et al. 2013a, Réblová et al. 2013). Some species of this genus seem to be widespread in nature and have been isolated from soil, plants, water and other substrates (Feng et al. 2013b). The genus traditionally encompassed black yeast-like phialidic asexual morphs with elongate, often curved, septate conidia, but recently has been recircumscribed to add some taxa with aseptate conidia previously placed in *Phialophora*. *Cyphellophora* species form a monophyletic group in the *Chaetothyriales* for which the family *Cyphellophoraceae* was erected (Réblová et al. 2013).

The closest BLAST hits for the ITS sequence of *C. catalaunica* (GenBank accession HG003670) were *C. laciniata* (JQ766423 and others, 97 % identical), *C. vermispota* (JQ766426 and others, 96–97 % identical), *C. fusarioides* (JQ766429 and others, 96 % identical) and *C. suttonii* (JQ766436 and others, 95 % identical). The former three species can be easily distinguished from *C. catalaunica* by conidial dimensions, i.e. wider in *C. laciniata* (11–25 × 2–5 µm) and shorter in *C. fusarioides* (3.5–8.5 × 1.0–1.5 µm) and *C. vermispota* (6.5–13 × 1–1.5 µm) (Feng et al. 2013b). The conidia of *C. suttonii* are (10–)15–20(–30) × 1.0–1.2 µm, near the size range of *C. catalaunica*, but in *C. suttonii* they have 3–8 septa (de Hoog et al. 2000, Feng et al. 2013b).

*Colour illustrations.* Catalan coast landscape near the sampling site. Colony on OA after 14 d at 24 °C, conidiogenous cells (arrows) and conidia, hyphal coil. Scale bars = 5 µm.

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