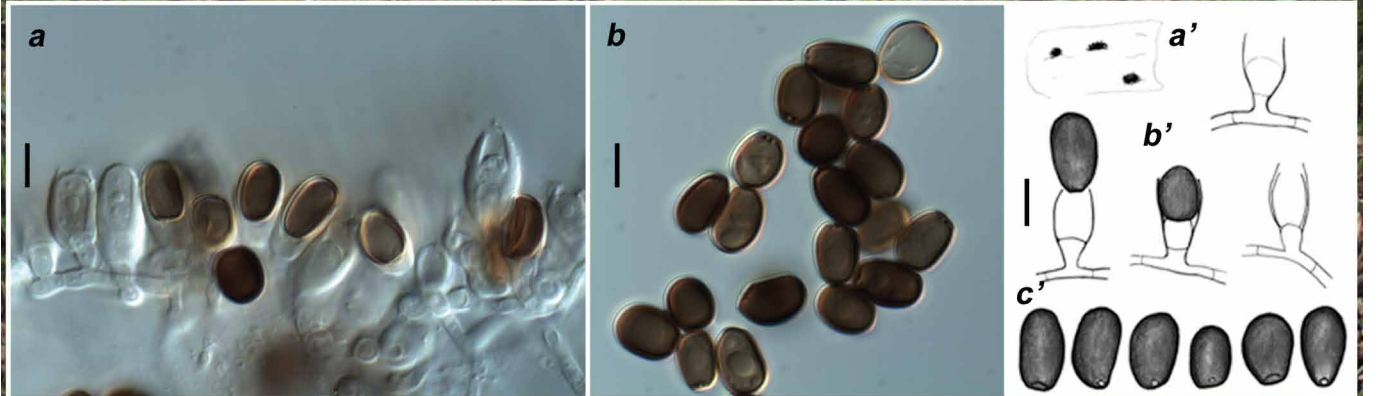
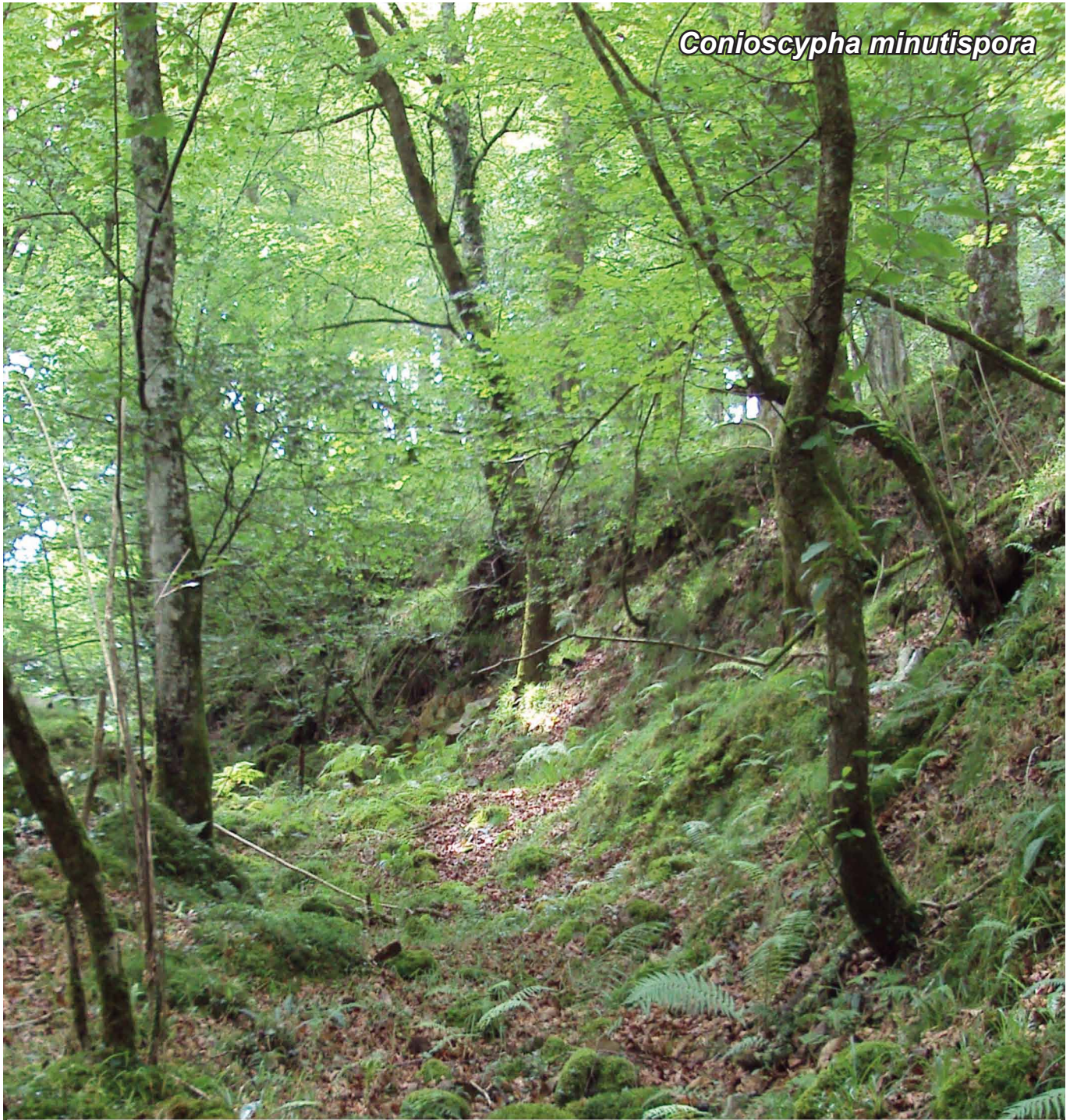


Conioscypha minutispora



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Conioscypha minutispora Hern.-Restr., Gené & Guarro, *sp. nov.*

Etymology. Name refers to the conidia that are smaller than those of the other species presently known.

Description based on substratum in vivo. *Colonies* effuse, black. *Mycelium* immersed, composed of branched, septate, smooth, hyaline, 1–2 µm wide hypha. *Conidiophores* reduced to conidiogenous cells. *Conidiogenous cells* cuneiform, percurrent, smooth, hyaline, 7–10 × 4–5 µm, with a cup-like collarette up to 4 µm wide at the apex. *Conidia* unicellular, ellipsoidal, obovoid or subglobose, 6–9 × 5–6 µm, apex rounded, base truncate with a central pore of 1 µm diam, dark brown and smooth.

Culture characteristics — Colonies on potato carrot agar reaching 15 mm diam after 4 wk at 25 °C, powdery, olive-brown (4F8) with zones of white mycelium; reverse sallow (4D3) (Kornerup & Wanscher 1984). Sporulation abundant. Conidiogenous apparatus and conidia very similar to those observed on the natural substratum. *Conidia* 7–8 × 5–6 µm.

Typus. SPAIN, Cantabria, Uceda, Saja-Besaya Natural Park, on unidentified dead wood, 27 Sept. 2010, coll. M. Hernández-Restrepo, J. Mena & J. Guarro, isol. M. Hernández-Restrepo (holotype CBS H-21464, cultures ex-type FMR 11245 = CBS 137253; ITS sequence GenBank KF924559, SSU sequence GenBank HF937347, LSU sequence GenBank KF924559, MycoBank MB807097).

Notes — The genus *Conioscypha* (*Sordariomycetes*) has a particularly mode of conidiogenesis characterised by the production of blastic conidia at inconspicuous loci along the hypha. After repeated basipetal succession, the remains of the outer wall of conidia accumulate to form collarettes (Shearer 1973, Goh & Hyde 1998, Réblová & Seifert 2004). Currently, the genus has eight species, which can be found on dead wood, bamboo and leaves (Shearer 1973, Chen & Tzean 2000, Réblová & Seifert 2004). *Conioscypha minutispora* differs from other members of the genus in that it has smaller and concolorous conidia. Based on its conidial shape, *C. minutispora* resembles *C. japonica*; however, in the latter species conidia have the pigment deposited irregularly at the periphery of the wall, giving the appearance of roughness (Udagawa & Toyazaki 1983).

A BLAST search based on the D1/D2 sequence of the isolate FMR 11245 showed that the closest species were *C. lignicola* (GenBank AY484513) with a similarity of 95 % and *C. varia* (GenBank AY484512) with a similarity of 89 %. However, both species can be easily differentiated from *C. minutispora* based on their conidial morphology. The conidia of *C. lignicola* are globose, oviform or pyriform and measure 15–17 × 12 µm, while those of *C. varia* differ in shape (ovoid, flammiform, naviculiform, subellipsoidal) and measure 8.4–15 × 5.6–8.5 µm (Shearer 1973).

Colour illustrations. Forest in the Saja-Besaya Natural Park where the sample was collected. Photo plate: a. Conidiogenous cells with conidia; b. conidia. Scale bars a, b = 5 µm. Line drawing: a'. Habit; b'. conidiogenous cell with dark conidia; c'. conidia. Scale bar b'–c' = 5 µm.