Tygervalleyomyces podocarpi
Tygervalleyomyces Crous, gen. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to the location where it was collected, Tyger Valley, South Africa.

Classification — Typhulaceae, Agaricales, Agaricomycetes.

Conidiomata cupulate, brown, up to 200 µm diam; walls of 3–5 layers of brown textura angularis. In culture forming sporodochia with mucoid conidial mass. Conidiophores cylindrical, hyaline, smooth, flexuous, septate. Conidiogenous cells terminal, cylindrical, hyaline, smooth, proliferating percurrently with proliferations widely dispersed over the length of the conidiogenous cell. Paraphyses similar to conidiophores but sterile, dispersed among conidiophores, frequently extending above them in length. Conidia solitary, cylindrical, with apex obtuse, base truncate with minute marginal frill, straight, aseptate, granular to guttulate.

Type species. Tygervalleyomyces podocarpi Crous. MycoBank MB823393.

Tygervalleyomyces podocarpi Crous, sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to Podocarpus, the host genus from which this fungus was collected.

Conidiomata cupulate, brown, up to 200 µm diam, forming on Podocarpus leaf litter; walls of 3–5 layers of brown textura angularis. On MEA forming sporodochia with mucoid conidial mass. Conidiophores cylindrical, hyaline, smooth, flexuous, 1–3-septate, 50–100 × 3–4 µm. Conidiogenous cells terminal, cylindrical, hyaline, smooth, 20–50 × 2–3 µm, proliferating percurrently with proliferations widely dispersed over the length of the conidiogenous cell. Paraphyses similar to conidiophores but sterile, dispersed among conidiophores, frequently extending above them in length. Conidia solitary, cylindrical, with apex obtuse, base truncate with minute marginal frill, straight, aseptate, granular to guttulate, (18–)20–26(–35) × 3(–4) µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies flat, spreading, with sparse aerial mycelium and smooth, lobate margins, covering the dish after 1 mo at 25 °C. On MEA, PDA and OA surface and reverse pale luteous.

Type. SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape Province, Tyger Valley, on leaf litter of Podocarpus falcatus, 1 Jan. 2016, P.W. Crous (holotype CBS H-23282, culture ex-type CPC 29979 = CBS 143487, ITS and LSU sequences GenBank MG386046 and MG386099, MycoBank MB823394).

Notes — Tygervalleyomyces is a genus of coelomycetes with cupulate conidiomata with affinities to Typhulaceae. Based on a megablast search using the ITS sequence, the closest matches in NCBI’s GenBank nucleotide database were only distant hits with members of Agaricales. The highest similarities using the LSU sequence were Typhula crassipes (GenBank KY224094; Identities 845/858 (98 %), 1 gap (0 %)), Typhula micans (GenBank KY224102; Identities 824/858 (96 %), 1 gap (0 %)) and Lentaria albovinacea (GenBank DQ071734; Identities 827/888 (93 %), 5 gaps (0 %)).