Fungal Planet 831 – 13 December 2018

**Leptodiscella rintelii** Hern.-Restr., *sp. nov.*

*Etymology.* *rintelii* refers to the name of the collector of the ex-type strain, Marinus Rintel. This species was discovered during a Citizen Science project in the Netherlands, ‘Wereldfaam, een schimmel met je eigen naam’, describing novel fungal species isolated from Dutch soils.

*Classification.* — *Muyocopronaceae, Muyocopronales, Dothideomycetes.*

*Mycelium* hyaline to pale brown composed of smooth-walled, septate, 1–2 µm wide hyphae. *Conidiophores* micro- to semi-micronematous composed of one to many globose to irregular cells, thin-walled, hyaline, smooth. *Conidiogenous cells* mononuclear, lateral or terminal, subcylindrical, globose or irregular, non-denticulate, hyaline, smooth, 3.5–6.5 × 3.5–5 µm. *Conidia* solitary, cylindrical, rounded at both ends or truncate base, hyaline, 1-septate, smooth, multi-guttulate, 8–14.5 × 3–4 µm, with a simple, filamentous subterminal appendage at each end, 2.5–6 µm long. *Chlamydospores* not observed.

*Culture characteristics.* — Colonies on OA and CMA after 1 wk at 25 °C, aerial mycelium lacking except in the centre, where occasionally white tufts are observed, pale ochreous to cinnamon with age, reverse concolourous.


Notes — *Leptodiscella* is an uncommon genus known mainly from soil (Papendorf 1967, Matsushima 1975, Madrid et al. 2012) and dust (Udagawa & Toyazaki 1985). *Leptodiscella rintelii* is more similar to *L. africana* in having hyaline, 1-septate conidia and lacking chlamydospores (Papendorf 1967). However, *L. rintelii* can be distinguished from *L. africana* by having shorter and wider conidia with shorter appendages (11–17.5 × 2–3 µm, 6.5–13 µm long, in *L. africana*, Papendorf 1975).

Based on a megablast search of NCBI’s GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence are *L. brevicatenata* (GenBank FR821312.1; Identities = 485/455 (96 %), 7 gaps (1 %)), *L. chlamydospora* (GenBank FR745398.1; Identities = 449/489 (92 %), 12 gaps (2 %)) and *L. africana* (GenBank NR_145359.1; Identities = 457/509 (90 %), 14 gaps (2 %)).

Colour illustrations. Garden where the soil sample was collected; conidiophores, conidiogenous cells and conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.