

*Parafenestella pittospori*





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## *Parafenestella pittospori* Crous, sp. nov.

*Etymology.* Name refers to the host genus *Pittosporum* from which it was isolated.

*Classification* — *Cucurbitariaceae*, *Pleosporales*, *Dothideo-mycetes*.

*Conidiomata* pycnidial, aggregated in clusters via a pale brown stroma, globose, pale brown, 60–120 µm diam, with papillate neck and central ostiole, up to 20 µm diam; wall of 2–3 layers of brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* subcylindrical, 1–3-septate, branched or not, hyaline, smooth, up to 20 µm tall. *Conidiogenous cells* phialidic, subcylindrical, hyaline, smooth, 4–6 × 2 µm. *Conidia* solitary, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, straight or slightly curved, apex obtuse, base truncate, (2.5–)3–4(–4.5) × 1.5 µm.

*Culture characteristics* — Colonies flat, spreading, surface folded, with sparse aerial mycelium and smooth, lobate margin, reaching 30 mm diam after 2 wk at 25 °C. On MEA surface smoke grey, reverse olivaceous grey. On PDA surface and reverse olivaceous grey. On OA surface iron-grey.

*Typus.* NEW ZEALAND, Auckland, Rotorua, leaf spots on *Pittosporum tenuifolium* (*Pittosporaceae*), 25 Aug. 2017, R. Thangavel (holotype CBS H-24152, culture ex-type T17\_03008A = CPC 34462 = CBS 146026, ITS and LSU sequences GenBank MN562098.1 and MN567606.1, MycoBank MB832857).

*Notes* — *Parafenestella* was recently treated (Jaklitsch et al. 2018, Valenzuela-Lopez et al. 2018, Crous et al. 2019b), and shown to have phoma-like asexual morphs. Within the genus *Parafenestella*, *P. pittospori* is phylogenetically distinct from other species known from DNA sequence data.

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the **ITS** sequence had highest similarity to *Ochrocladosporium elatum* (strain 17C006, GenBank MH734786.1; Identities = 421/437 (96 %), 3 gaps (0 %)), *Neocucurbitaria vachelliae* (strain CBS 142397, GenBank NR\_156363.1; Identities = 412/428 (96 %), 3 gaps (0 %)), and *Ochrocladosporium frigidarii* (strain CZ549, GenBank FJ755255.1; Identities = 406/423 (96 %), 3 gaps (0 %)). Closest hits using the **LSU** sequence are *Parafenestella tetratrupha* (strain C304, GenBank MK356319.1; Identities = 900/906 (99 %), no gaps), *Parafenestella salicum* (strain C311, GenBank MK356318.1; Identities = 900/906 (99 %), no gaps), and *Parafenestella rosacearum* (strain C320, GenBank MK356315.1; Identities = 900/906 (99 %), no gaps), as well as species of *Neocucurbitaria*, such as *Neocucurbitaria unguis-hominis* (strain CNM-CM 8717, GenBank LT966028.1; Identities = 881/887 (99 %), no gaps) and *Neocucurbitaria keratinophila* (strain CBS 121759, GenBank LT623215.1; Identities = 884/891 (99 %), no gaps).

*Colour illustrations.* *Pittosporum* hedge *Parafenestella pittospori* was isolated from. Conidiomata on synthetic nutrient poor agar; conidiomatal ostiole and wall; conidiogenous cells; conidia. Scale bars = 120 µm (conidiomata), 20 µm (ostiole), 10 µm (all others).

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