

Pilidium novae-zelandiae



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Pilidium novae-zelandiae Crous, sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to the country New Zealand, where it was collected.

Classification — *Chaetomellaceae*, *Chaetomellales*, *Leotiomycetes*.

Conidiomata sporodochial, superficial, separate, 180–300 µm diam, red-brown, becoming cupulate; wall of red-brown *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* hyaline, smooth, branched, septate, filiform, giving rise to terminal and intercalary conidiogenous cells and paraphyses, up to 100 µm long, 2–2.5 µm wide. *Conidiogenous cells* monophialidic, subcylindrical, straight to curved, smooth, hyaline, with periclinal thickening and minute collarette, 4–15 × 1–1.5 µm. *Conidia* hyaline, smooth, aseptate, cymbiform, guttulate, ends acute, (9–)10–12(–14) × (1.5–)2 µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies flat, spreading, with moderate aerial mycelium and smooth, lobate margin, reaching 60 mm diam after 2 wk at 25 °C. On MEA surface cinnamon, reverse sepia. On PDA surface buff, reverse isabelline. On OA surface buff.

Typus. NEW ZEALAND, Auckland, 21 Mullagh place, *Phoenix* sp., 4 Feb. 2018, R. Thangavel (holotype CBS H-24157, culture ex-type T18_00344D = CPC 35872 = CBS 146029, ITS and LSU sequences GenBank MN562100.1 and MN567608.1, MycoBank MB832859).

Notes — *Pilidium* was treated by Rossman et al. (2004) and Marin-Felix et al. (2017). *Pilidium novae-zelandiae* (conidia (9–)10–12(–14) × (1.5–)2 µm) is phylogenetically closely related to *P. anglicum* (*Eucalyptus* sp., UK; conidia (12–)13–14(–15) × 1.5(–2) µm; Crous et al. 2017a), but on average has smaller conidia.

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence had highest similarity to *Pilidium anglicum* (strain CBS 143402, GenBank NR_156670.1; Identities = 459/471 (97 %), 5 gaps (1 %)), *Pilidium acerinum* (strain CBS 736.68, GenBank NR_119500.1; Identities = 455/472 (96 %), 5 gaps (1 %)), and *Pilidium eucalyptorum* (strain CPC 26594, GenBank NR_145311.1; Identities = 449/466 (96 %), 2 gaps (0 %)). Closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Pilidium eucalyptorum* (strain CPC 26594, GenBank NG_059618.1; Identities = 794/798 (99 %), no gaps), *Pilidium acerinum* (strain CBS 403.71C, GenBank MH871958.1; Identities = 881/886 (99 %), no gaps), and *Pilidium anglicum* (strain CBS 143402, GenBank NG_058522.1; Identities = 842/847 (99 %), no gaps).

Colour illustrations. *Phoenix* sp. in New Zealand. Colony on oatmeal agar; conidiophores with conidiogenous cells; conidia. Scale bars = 300 µm (conidiomata), 10 µm (all others).

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