

Podocarpomyces knysnanus



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Podocarpomyces Crous, gen. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to the host genus on which it occurs, *Podocarpus*.

Classification — *Amorosiaceae*, *Pleosporales*, *Dothideomycetes*.

Conidiomata solitary, globose, brown, with central ostiole; wall of 3–6 layers of *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* lining inner cavity, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, branched at base,

septate. *Conidiogenous cells* terminal and intercalary, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical with apical taper, phialidic. *Conidia* solitary, aseptate, hyaline, smooth, guttulate, apex subobtuse, base truncate.

Type species. *Podocarpomyces knysnanus* Crous.
MycoBank MB832915.

Podocarpomyces knysnanus Crous, sp. nov.

Etymology. Name refers to the location in South Africa where the fungus was collected, Knysna.

Conidiomata solitary, globose, brown, 200–250 µm diam, with central ostiole; wall of 3–6 layers of *textura angularis*. *Conidiophores* lining inner cavity, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical, branched at base, 1–2-septate, 15–30 × 2.5–4 µm. *Conidiogenous cells* terminal and intercalary, hyaline, smooth, subcylindrical with apical taper, phialidic, 7–15 × 2.5–3 µm. *Conidia* solitary, aseptate, hyaline, smooth, guttulate, apex subobtuse, base truncate, 1.5–2 µm diam, 5–6(–7.5) × 2(–2.5) µm.

Culture characteristics — Colonies flat, spreading, with moderate aerial mycelium and smooth, lobate margin, reaching 35 mm diam after 2 wk at 25 °C. On MEA and PDA surface pale olivaceous grey, reverse olivaceous grey. On OA surface buff to cinnamon.

Typus. SOUTH AFRICA, Western Cape Province, Knysna, Knysna area, on leaves of *Podocarpus falcatus* (*Podocarpaceae*), 23 Nov. 2018, F. Roets, HPC 2725 (holotype CBS H-24182, culture ex-type CPC 37065 = CBS 146076, ITS, LSU, *rpb2* and *tef1* sequences GenBank MN562155.1, MN567662.1, MN556816.1 and MN556836.1, MycoBank MB832916).

Notes — *Podocarpomyces* is a sister genus to *Alfodia* and *Amorocoelophoma* (*Amorosiaceae*) in the *Pleosporales* (Crous et al. 2019a). *Podocarpomyces knysnanus* (known as asexual morph) is related to *Neothyrostroma* (on leaves of *Encephalartos*, South Africa; see FP958), but the two genera are morphologically and phylogenetically distinct.

Based on a megablast search of NCBI's GenBank nucleotide database, the closest hits using the ITS sequence had highest similarity to *Angustimassarina alni* (strain MFLUCC 15-0184, GenBank KY548099.1; Identities = 345/363 (95 %), 2 gaps (0 %)), *Lophiostoma corticola* (strain Z26, GenBank MK907710.1; Identities = 387/410 (94 %), 2 gaps (0 %)), *Angustimassarina rosarum* (strain MFLUCC 15-0080, GenBank MG828869.1; Identities = 387/410 (94 %), 2 gaps (0 %)), *Atrocalyx asturiensis* (strain OF, GenBank MG912912.1; Identities = 675/792 (85 %), 34 gaps (4 %)), *Hermatomyces tucumanensis* (voucher PRM 946202, GenBank LS398290.1; Identities = 660/779 (85 %), 40 gaps (5 %)), and *Shrungabeeja longiappendiculata* (strain BCC 76464, GenBank KT376475.1; Identities = 666/810 (82 %), 62 gaps (7 %)). Closest hits using the LSU sequence are *Angustimassarina populi* (strain MFLUCC 17-1069, GenBank MF409166.1; Identities = 821/835 (98 %), 2 gaps (0 %)), *Angustimassarina premilcurensis* (strain MFLUCC 15-0074, GenBank KY496725.1; Identities = 821/835 (98 %), 2 gaps (0 %)), and *Angustimassarina loniceræ* (strain MFLUCC 15-0087, GenBank KY496724.1; Identities = 821/835 (98 %), 2 gaps (0 %)). Closest hits using the *tef1* sequence had highest similarity to *Alfodia vorosii* (as *Dothideomycetes* sp. DGK-2019a, strain REF117, GenBank MK599321.1; Identities = 427/457 (93 %), no gaps), *Angustimassarina coryli* (strain MFLUCC 14-0981, GenBank MF167433.1; Identities = 421/451 (93 %), no gaps), and *Teichospora trabicola* (strain C134, GenBank KU601601.1; Identities = 425/457 (93 %), no gaps). No significant hits were obtained when the *rpb2* sequence was used in blastn and megablast searches.

Colour illustrations. *Podocarpus falcatus* tree in Knysna forest. Colony on oatmeal agar; conidiophores with conidiogenous cells; conidia. Scale bars = 10 µm.

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