Outlineoffungi.org - Note 849 *Montanitestudina*

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Montanitestudina Maharachch., Wanas. & Al-Sadi

Montanitestudina was introduced by Maharachchikumbura et al. (2021) as a monotypic genus to accommodate the type species *M. hydei*, based on morphological characteristics and phylogenetic analysis of combined SSU, LSU, ITS, *rpb*2 and *tef*1α sequence data. *Montanitestudina hydei* was found on the dead wood of an undetermined host in Oman. This genus forms a distinct lineage within *Testudinaceae*. The genus is characterized by coriaceous, black, globose to subglobose ascomata scattered or gregarious beneath the host periderm or on decorticated wood. The central ostiole is irregular and a pore-like opening is available. Pseudoparaphyses are septate and cellular, while asci are 8-spored, bitunicate, cylindrical to cylindric-clavate, with a distinct pedicel and apically rounded with an ocular chamber. Ascospores are uniseriate, ellipsoid, oblong to fusoid, brown, and muriform, with or without a mucilaginous sheath. Asexual structures are not observed. Maharachchikumbura et al. (2021) mentioned that the asci and ascospores of *Montanitestudina* resemble some of the species in *Camarosporidiella*, *Cucurbitaria*, *Fenestella*, *Hawksworthiana*, *Neocucurbitaria*, *Pseudostrickeria*, *Sporormurispora*, and *Uzbekistanica*. However, *Montanitestudina* is phylogenetically distinct from those genera and closely related to *Lepidosphaeria.* The taxonomic placement of *Montanitestudina* is in *Testudinaceae*, *Dothideomycetes*, and *Ascomycota*.

Reference

Maharachchikumbura SSN, Wanasinghe DN, Cheewangkoon, R, Abdullah M. Al-Sadi. 2021 – Uncovering the hidden taxonomic diversity of fungi in Oman. Fungal Diversity 106, 229–268. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13225-020-00467-1

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