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Nesothele Orange

Based on analysis of combined ITS, LSU and SSU sequences data, Orange & Chhetri (2022) established the genus *Nesothele* with the type species *Nesothele succedens* (= *Polyblastia succedens*) to accommodate the distinct group of *Staurothele sensu lato*. *Nesothele* is characterized by crustose to squamulose superficial thallus, hyaline, muriform ascospores, 4–8 per ascus and by photobiont cells present in the hymenium. Orange & Chhetri (2022) showed that *Nesothele* formed a well-supported clade of *Verrucariaceae* and demonstrate the sister relationship to *Staurothele sensu stricto*, which is characterized by mainly epilithic thallus, 2-spored asci and colourless to usually brown ascospores. However, this sister relationship did not obtain significant support from maximum likelihood analyses provided by the authors. Currently, the genus includes five species worldwide and is placed within *Verrucariaceae (Verrucariales, Eurotiomycetes*).

Reference

Orange A, Chhetri S. 2022 - Verrucariaceae from Nepal. The Lichenologist 54(3-4), 139–174. doi:10.1017/S0024282922000160

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