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Pleurocordyceps Y.J. Yao, Y.H. Wang, S. Ban, W.J. Wang, Yi Li, Ke Wang & P.M. Kirk

Wang et al. (2021) introduced *Pleurocordyceps* under *Polycephalomycetaceae* (*Hypocreales*, *Sordariomycetes, Ascomycota*) to accommodate ten entomopathogenic species based on morphology and phylogenetic analyses (Chen et al., 1984; Wang et al., 2021; Xiao et al., 2023). This genus was typified by *Pleurocordyceps sinensis* (Q.T. Chen, S.R. Xiao & Z.Y. Shi) W.J. Wang, X.L. Wang, Y. Li, S.R. Xiao & Y.J. Due to its lateral fertile pulvinate stromata near the tip of the sexual morph and its two types of phialides and conidia in the asexual morph, *Pleurocordyceps* differs from other similar genera (Wang et al., 2021; Xiao et al., 2023). Commonly reported associations with *Pleurocordyceps* include one fungus genus (*Ophiocordyceps*) and six insect orders (*Coleoptera*, *Hymenoptera*, *Hemiptera*, *Lepidoptera*, *Orthoptera*, and *Homoptera*) (Xiao et al., 2023). With 16 accepted species, *Pleurocordyceps* is the most diverse genus in the family *Polycephalomycetaceae* (Wang et al., 2021; Xiao et al., 2023). Molecular analyses of the multi-locus dataset (ITS, SSU, LSU, *tef1*, *rpb1*, and *rpb2*) have confirmed that the genus belongs to a monophyletic clade that is basal to the *Polycephalomycetaceae* (Wang et. al., 2021). Future research could focus on amassing additional samples to describe the diversity of polycephalomyces-like fungi (Xiao et al., 2023).

References

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