

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 1059 *Austrophoma*

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Austrophoma N.Q. Pham, Marinc. & M.J. Wingf.

Marincowitz et al. (2024) introduced the monotypic genus *Austrophoma* with *Austrophoma euphorbiae* N.Q. Pham, Marinc. & M.J. Wingf., supported by both morphological traits and a phylogenetic analysis utilizing ITS, LSU, RPB2, and TUB2 sequences. The type species was isolated from the dying *Euphorbia mauritanica* in South Africa. Only the asexual morph has been observed in the new genus. In the asexual morph, conidiomata are pycnidial, papillate, or with short necks. Conidiophores are decreased to hyaline, holoblastic, doliiform to lageniform conidiogenous cells. Conidia are hyaline, cylindrical, aseptate, and rarely one-septate. In the phylogenetic analysis using ITS, LSU, RPB2, and TUB2 sequences, *Austrophoma* has the closest relationship with phoma-like genera (*Didymellaceae*). *Austrophoma* and *Phomatodes* exhibit similar morphological characteristics, notably hyaline conidia that vary from allantoid to cylindrical. Despite these morphological similarities, genetic sequencing clearly distinguishes them as separate lineages.

Reference

Marincowitz S, Pham NQ, Wingfield BD, Roets F et al. 2024 – Microfungi associated with dying *Euphorbia mauritanica* in South Africa and their relative pathogenicity. *Fungal Syst Evol* 12(1), 59–72.

Entry by

Maryam Tavakol Noorabadi, Innovative Institute for Plant Health, Zhongkai University of Agriculture and Engineering, Guangzhou 510225, People's Republic of China

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