

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 565 *Verrucocum*

Web-links: [Index Fungorum](#), [Facesoffungi](#), [MycoBank](#)

Verrucocum V. Atienza, D. Hawksw. & Pérez-Ort.

Verrucocum is the only genus of lichenicolous fungi so far known in *Dictyosporiaceae*, *Pleosporales*, *Dothideomycetes*. This was introduced by [Atienza et al. \(2021\)](#) to accommodate *Verrucocum coppinsii* as the type species. The name *Verrucocum* was based on the characteristic warty appearance of the outer wall ornamentation of ascomata and conidiomata. *Verrucocum* members show some morphological similarities with the genera *Didymocyrtis* and *Polycoccum*, which also have 1-septate, brown ascospores in that the exposed outer walls of cells of the ascomata and conidiomata are unevenly thickened, giving it an ornamented warty appearance (Ertz et al. 2015, [Atienza et al. 2021](#)). However, *Verrucocum* differs from those genera in that the cells of the ascomata wall, which are polygonal and dark brown, have unevenly thickened walls, giving a warty appearance, and are not radially compressed in vertical sections with evenly thickened cell walls. In addition, *Didymocyrtis* also differs in having a phoma-like conidial morph, evenly thick-walled cells, enteroblastic conidiogenous cells, and hyaline conidia ([Atienza et al. 2021](#)). The asexual morph of *Verrucocum* also has some similarities with *Pseudocyclothyriella* in having uniloculate pycnidial conidiomata. Nevertheless, *Pseudocyclothyriella* can be distinguished from *Verrucocum* in having multi-layered conidiomata wall which comprised scleroplectenchymatous cells and a minutely papillate ostiole filled with hyaline periphyses ([Atienza et al. 2021](#), [Jiang et al. 2021](#)). Currently, three *Verrucocum* species are listed in Index Fungorum (2022), such as *V. coppinsii*, *V. hymeniicola* and *V. spribillei*. LSU, SSU and ITS genes sequences are also available in GenBank for those species. It would be more interesting, if have more collections of *Verrucocum* species with protein coding genes for future studies.

References

- Atienza V, Hawksworth DL, Pérez-Ortega S. 2021 – *Verrucocum* (*Dothideomycetes*, *Dictyosporiaceae*), a new genus of lichenicolous fungi on *Lobaria* s. lat. for the *Dothidea hymeniicola* species complex. *Mycologia* 113, 1233–1252. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00275514.2021.1966281>
- Ertz D, Diederich P, Lawrey JD, Berger B, Freebury CE, Coppins B, Gardiennet A, Hafellner J. 2015 – Dismantling *Dacampiaceae* (*Pleosporales*): *Didymocyrtis* (*Pleosporales*) with phoma-like anamorphs resurrected and segregated from *Polycoccum* (*Trypeteliales*, *Polycoccaceae* fam. nov.). *Fungal Diversity* 74, 53–89.
- Jiang HB, Jeewon R, Karunarathna SC, Phukhamsakda C, Doilom M, Kakumyan P, Suwannarach N, Phookamsak R, Lumyong S. 2021 – Reappraisal of *Immotthia* in *Dictyosporiaceae*, *Pleosporales*: introducing *Immotthia bambusae* sp. nov. and *Pseudocyclothyriella clematidis* comb. et gen. nov. based on morphology and phylogeny. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 12, 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2021.656235>

Entry by

Danushka S. Tennakoon, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

(Edited by: **Chayanard Phukhamsakda**)

Published online 26 September 2022