

Outlineoffungi.org - Note 642 *Pseudocryphonectria*

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Pseudocryphonectria Huayi Huang

The monotypic genus *Pseudocryphonectria* (type species, *P. elaeocarpicola*), so far only described in its asexual morph was introduced in *Cryphonectriaceae* (*Diaporthales*) based on a dual taxonomic approach ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). Isolated strains were subjected to multi-gene phylogenetic analyses ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). The strains formed a separate lineage, distinct from taxa of all other genera in the family in both the ITS–LSU phylogenetic tree as well as the phylogram based on combined ITS, LSU, *tef1* and *rpb2* loci ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). This indicative possibility of a novel genus was then supported by the morphological distinction of the isolated strains, which distinguished themselves from other taxa in *Cryphonectriaceae* by principally comprising dimorphic conidia produced within the same conidioma ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). The isolates were therefore introduced as the novel species *P. elaeocarpicola*, in the new genus *Pseudocryphonectria* ([Huang et al. 2022](#)).

Pseudocryphonectria elaeocarpicola is characterized by orange cryphonectriaceous stromata and yellow to orange, subglobose to pulvinate, pycnidial conidiomata which have multiple locules, with a single ostiole ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). Conidiogenous cells are characteristically phialidic while two types of conidia are produced, namely, microconidia, which are cylindrical, and macroconidia, which are obclavate ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). *Pseudocryphonectria elaeocarpicola* has a pathogenic lifestyle ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). The taxon was isolated from *Elaeocarpus apiculatus* and *E. hainanensis* (*Elaeocarpaceae*) which evidenced stem blight disease, with yellow to orange conidiomata and orange conidial tendrils formed on the cankered bars ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). The diseased trees died within five months after becoming infected, as observed by [Huang et al. \(2022\)](#). Pathogenicity tests conducted on seedlings of *Elaeocarpus apiculatus* and *E. hainanensis* revealed that the fungus was indeed highly pathogenic on the plants, quickly infecting and killing them ([Huang et al. 2022](#)). The high virulence of this fungus is of concern since it can be a serious plant pathogen, not only to *Elaeocarpus apiculatus* and *E. hainanensis*, but to other economically important plants as well ([Huang et al. 2022](#)).

Reference

Huang HY, Huang HH, Zhao DY, Shan TJ, Hu LL. 2022 – *Pseudocryphonectria elaeocarpicola* gen. et sp. nov. (*Cryphonectriaceae*, *Diaporthales*) causing stem blight of *Elaeocarpus* spp. in China. *MycKeys* 91, 67–84.
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Entry by

Digvijayini Bundhun, Center of Excellence in Fungal Research, Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai 57100, Thailand

(Edited by **Kevin D Hyde & Rekhani Hansika Perera**)

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