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## Taxonomy of Eriocercosporaceous Fungi

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### ABSTRACT

*Eriocercospora websteri* was described by Raghuveer Rao, Manoharachary and Rama Rao (1982). A critical re-examination resulted in renaming *E. websteri* as *Eriocercosporomyces* with *Eriocercosporomyces websteri* as type species.

**Keywords:** *Eriocercospora*, *Eriocercosporomyces*, mycoparasitic, phragmoconidia, base conicotruncate

### 1. INTRODUCTION

During a survey of microfungi from Vikarabad forest, Andhra Pradesh, a species of *Eriocercospora* Deighton parasitizing the leaves of *Kydia* sp. (Malvaceae) was collected. The genus was erected by Deighton (1969) with *E. balladynae* (Hansf.) Deighton as the type species to accommodate hyperparasitic hyphomycetes with superficial mycelium, producing unbranched or sparingly branched conidiophores with terminal polyblastic, sympodial conidiogenous cells cutting off solitary, dry, olivaceous to brown, acropleurogenous, clavate to cylindrical phragmoconidia.

Pirozynski (1974) reported *E. olivacea* confined to the colonies of *Meliolina molle* (Berk. and Curt.) Höhn., producing superficial mycelium, densely overgrowing and closely appressed to the host hyphae but not penetrating them. Thus the hyperparasitic nature of this species seems to be doubtful. Singh (1980) described *E. moghaniae* infecting the leaves of *Moghania prostrata* (Roxb.) Muk producing superficial mycelium.

Raghuveer Rao *et al.* (1982) have described *E. websteri* Raghuveer Rao, Manoharachary and Rama Rao which differs from all the known species of *Eriocercospora* in the nature of mycelium,

terminal, polyblastic, sympodial, slightly tapered towards the apex, rarely geniculate, cicatrized, conidial scars lying flat against the sides; conidia dry, acropleurogenous, single, deep to light brown, smooth, cylindrical to obclavate, transversely septate, straight or sigmoid, rounded to obtuse at apex, conico-truncate at base.

Collected on living leaves of *Kydia* sp., Vikarabad, A.P., India, by C. Manoharachary, 24 January, 1969, VKBF 22, Holotype IMI 138952.

*Eriocercosporomyces websteri* Manoharachary et Kunwar sp. nov. Fig. 1

Coloniae hypophyllae, atrae vel atrobrunneae; mycelium internale vel superficiale, parasiticum; conidiophora ex hyphis repentis, macronemata, mononemata; irregulariter ramosa vel simplicia, septata, 16–120 µm longa, 3–5 µm lata; cellulae conidiogenae in conidiophoris incorporatae, terminales, polyblasticae; conidia laevia, acropleurogena, solitaria, cylindrical vel exigua, obclavata, 1–15 transverse septata, 16–90 × 4.5–7.5 µm, obtuse ad apicem, conicotruncata ad basim, recta vel sigmoidea.

Colonies hypophyllous, velutinous, irregular, sometimes extensive, black to blackish brown; mycelium internal and external; parasitic, creeping, light to yellowish brown, branched, septate, up to 6 µm in diam; stroma, setae and hyphopodia absent; conidiophores macronematous, mononematous, simple or sparingly branched, septate, 16–120 × 3–5 µm, erect or flexous, light to yellowish brown; conidiogenous cells terminal, polyblastic, sympodial, slightly tapered towards the apex, rarely geniculate, cicatrized, conidial scars lying flat against the sides; conidia dry, acropleurogenous, single, deep to light brown, smooth, cylindrical to obclavate, 1–15 transversely septate, 16–90 × 4.5–7.5 µm, straight or sigmoid, rounded to obtuse at apex, conico-truncate at base.

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