New ophiostomatoid fungi from wounds on storm-damaged trees in Afromontane forests of the Cape Floristic Region

Tendai Musvuugwa

Department of Biological and Agricultural Sciences, Sol Plaatje University, Private Bag X5008, Kimberley, 8300, South Africa

Z. Wilhelm de Beer

Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI), University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa

Léanne L. Dreyer

Department of Botany and Zoology, Stellenbosch University, Private Bag X1, Stellenbosch, 7600. South Africa

Tuan Duong

Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI), University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa

Seonju Marincowitz

Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI), University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa

Kenneth C. Oberlander

Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa

Francois Roets (corresponding author)

Department of Conservation Ecology and Entomology, Stellenbosch University, Private Bag X1, Stellenbosch, 7600, South Africa. E-mail: fr@sun.ac.za, tel: +27 021 8082635

Abstract

Ophiostomatoid fungi, a well-known, tree-associated group, includes some of the most important forest pathogens globally. Several ophiostomatoid species were reported already from *Rapanea melanophloeos* of the Afromontane forests from the Cape Floristic Region (CFR) of South Africa. The aim of this study was to investigate the diversity of ophiostomatoid fungi associated with wounds on other Afromontane forest tree species in the CFR. Storm-damaged trees were surveyed and fungi were isolated from bark and wood samples. Two undescribed ophiostomatoid species were identified based on micro-morphological characters and phylogenetic analyses. They are newly described here as *Graphilbum roseum* and *Sporothrix oleae*. A third taxon in the genus *Graphium* may also represent an undescribed species, but additional data is required to support this hypothesis. *Sporothrix oleae*, a species that groups within the *S. candida* species complex, was associated with *Olea capensis*. *Graphilbum roseum* was isolated from several host tree species including *Curtisia dentata*, *Halleria lucida* and *Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus*, while the *Graphium* species was isolated from *Ilex mitis*.

Key words: Graphilbum, Graphium, Ophiostomatales, Sporothrix, Microascales

Introduction

The Cape Floristic Region (CFR), an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot at the southern tip of South Africa (Myers et al. 2000), is characterised by high levels of plant gamma-diversity and endemism (Goldblatt and Manning 2000). Even though taxa such as plants, birds and mammals have been well-documented in the CFR (Brooks et al. 2001; Kerley et al. 2003; Stattersfield et al. 1998), few studies have focussed on the diversity of less conspicuous groups such as fungi (Crous et al. 2006). Based on previous research, for example, Kamgan Nkuekam et al. (2008) and Musvuugwa et al. (2015, 2016a), a large proportion of these fungal taxa may be associated with trees in Afromontane forests, an important component of CFR vegetation (Goldblatt and Manning 2002; Mucina and Rutherford 2006).

Afromontane forests are evergreen and dominated by important canopy trees including Assegaaihout (*Curtisia dentata* C.A. Sm.), various Yellowwoods (*Podocarpus* spp. and *Afrocarpus falcatus* (Thunb.) C.N. Page), Ironwood (*Olea capensis* L. ssp. *macrocarpa* (C.H. Wright) I. Verd.) and Cape Beech (*Rapanea melanophloeos* Mez) (Van Wyk and Van Wyk 1997). The largest continuous Afromontane forests are found in the Tsitsikamma area. Further westward they occur in small, fragmented patches on mountains, foothills, coastal platforms, river valleys and dunes along the coastal regions of the Western Cape Province, South Africa (Lubke and McKenzie 1996; Geldenhuys 2010). These forests are of ecological, economic and cultural importance. Tree species such as *Ocotea bullata* (Burch.) Baill, *Olinia ventosa* (L.) Cufod. and *Podocarpus* spp. are economically important for timber used in carpentry (Turpie et al. 2003). Others are used for medicinal purposes. The bark of *R. melanophloeos, C. dentata* and *O. bullata*, for example, is used by local people for the treatment of various ailments (Vermeulen et al. 2012).

The ophiostomatoid fungi represent one of the best-studied tree-associated fungal groups. This polyphyletic group (De Beer et al. 2013a) includes some of the best-known tree pathogenic fungi globally (Heath et al. 2009; Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2012) as many of its members cause rot and wilting diseases and cankers that lead to death of infected trees (Roux and Wingfield 2013; Wingfield et al. 1993). The ophiostomatoid fungi are grouped into two orders, the Microascales (*Ceratocystis* Ellis & Halst., *Knoxdaviesia* M.J. Wingf., P.S. van Wyk & Marasas and *Graphium* Corda) and the Ophiostomatales [*Raffaelea* Arx & Hennebert, *Ceratocystiopsis* H.P. Upadhyay & W.B. Kendr., *Graphilbum* H.P. Upadhyay & W.B. Kendr., *Ophiostoma* Syd., *Sporothrix* Hektoen & C.F. Perkins and *Leptographium* Lagerb. & Melin (De Beer et al. 2013b,

2016)]. Some well-documented examples of pathogenic ophiostomatoid fungi include the *Ceratocystis fimbriata* species complex responsible for serious diseases of various economically important trees like mango, coffee, *Acacia* Mill. and *Eucalyptus* L'Hér. (Fourie et al. 2015; Oliveira et al. 2015), *C. platani* (Walter) Engelbr. & T.C. Harr. causing canker stain disease of plane trees (Tsopelas et al. 2017), *C. fagacearum* (Bretz) Hunt responsible for oak wilt disease (Juzwik et al. 2008), *Ophiostoma ulmi* (Buisman) Nannf. and *O. novo-ulmi* Brasier, the causal agents of Dutch elm disease in Europe and America (Brasier and Buck 2001; Pipe et al. 2000), *Raffaelela lauricola* T.C. Harr., Fraedrich & Aghayeva, responsible for the Laurel wilt disease in the southeastern USA (Harrington et al. 2008) and *R. quercivora* Kubono *et* Shin. Ito causing oak die-back and mortality of Japanese oak trees (Kubono and Ito 2002).

Most research published on ophiostomatoid fungi in South Africa focussed on members associated with exotic plantation trees (De Beer et al. 2003; Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2012, 2013; Zhou et al. 2006) and a few of these have proven to be pathogenic on their hosts. For example, Ceratocystis albifundus M.J. Wingf., De Beer & M.J. Morris, which is responsible for wattle wilt disease in Acacia mearnsii De Wild., has led to significant economic losses in South African plantations (Roux and Wingfield 2013). Several other Ceratocystis species with varying levels of pathogenicity have been reported on Eucalyptus (Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2013). Other species of ophiostomatoid fungi were collected from tree wounds on native trees in Afromontane forests caused by weather or animal or human activities. Documented examples in the Microascales include C. albifundus and C. savannae Kamgan Nkuekam & Jol. Roux that are associated with several native hosts (Roux and Wingfield 2013), C. tsitsikammensis Kamgan & Jol. Roux from Ocotea bullata and Rapanea melanophloeos (Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2008), and Graphium adansoniae Cruywagen, Z.W. de Beer & Jol. Roux from baobabs (Cruywagen et al. 2010). Taxa in the Ophiostomatales known from wounds on trees in this region include Ophiostoma quercus (Georgev.) Nannf. from R. melanophloeos (De Beer et al. 2003; Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2008), Sporothrix stenoceras (Robak) Nannf., S. itsvo Musvuugwa, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets, S. noisomeae Musvuugwa, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets, S. uta Musvuugwa, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets, and S. rapaneae Musvuugwa, Z.W. de Beer, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets from R. melanophloeos trees (Musvuugwa et al. 2016a), Ophiostoma palustre J.A Osorio, Z.W. de Beer & Jol. Roux from native mangroves (Osorio et al. 2016), O. thermarum J.A. van der Linde, Z.W. de Beer & Jol. Roux and Aureovirgo volantis J.A. van der Linde, Z.W. de Beer & Jol. Roux on Euphorbia ingens (Van der Linde et al. 2016). In addition, at least one currently undescribed

ophiostomatoid species is known from tree wounds in CFR forests (Musvuugwa et al. 2016b). A few taxa are known from subcortical beetles infesting native tree species in the Afromontane forests. These include *Sporothrix aemulophila* Musvuugwa, Z.W. de Beer, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets and *Raffaelea rapaneae* Musvuugwa, Z.W. de Beer, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets from *R. melanophloeos*, *S. pallida* (Tubaki) Matsush. and *R. vaginata* T. Musvuugwa, Z.W. de Beer, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets from *O. capensis* ssp. *macrocarpa* (Musvuugwa et al. 2015).

Very little is known about ophiostomatoid fungi associating with forest trees other than *R. melanophloeos* (Musvuugwa et al. 2016a). During surveys of fungi associated with wounds on other forest trees (Musvuugwa 2014; Musvuugwa et al. 2016b), three possibly new and undescribed ophiostomatoid taxa were collected. The present study sets out to evaluate the identity of these taxa based on morphological and molecular phylogenetic comparisons.

Materials and methods

Sampling of plant material and fungal isolation

Sampling was conducted in various native forests of the CFR, including Groenkop Forest Reserve (S 33°56'32" E 22°32'50"), Gouldveld (S 33°54'44" E 23°0'10"), Gouna (S 33°57'3" E 23°2'10") and Assegaaibosch (S 33°58'23" E 18°56'11") between 2010 and 2012. Bark and wood samples were collected from wounds on various storm-damaged native trees following the methods described in Musvuugwa et al. (2016a, b). In total 56 bark and wood samples were collected from 56 tree individuals. Samples were typically associated with wounds. Samples were stored in separate sampling bags and transferred to the laboratory where they were examined for ophiostomatoid fungi using a Leica EZ4 microscope (Wetzlar, Germany).

Where ophiostomatoid-like fungi were present, a sterile needle was used to collect and transfer spores from the tips of sporulating structures to 2% malt extract agar (MEA, Biolab, Midrand, South Africa). Cultures producing conidia in sticky droplets on upright stipes and/or ascospores in sticky droplets on ascomata with elongated necks were investigated. Brown or black discoloration of wood was sampled by removing small pieces of wood tissues with a sterile scalpel from the leading edge of the stain and placing on MEA. Primary isolation plates were incubated in the dark at room temperature and examined daily for fungal growth. Colonies that produced structures that resembled anamorphic characteristics of ophiostomatoid fungi were purified by a single hyphal tip from edges of actively growing colonies to fresh MEA plates. Purified

cultures were maintained on Petri dishes at 4°C for further use. Representatives of pure cultures of morphotypes collected in this study were preserved in the culture collection (CMW) of the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) at the University of Pretoria, South Africa and in the culture collection (CBS) of the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands. Herbarium type specimens of the new species were deposited in the National Collection of Fungi (PREM), Roodeplaat, South Africa.

Morphological characterisation

Where available, perithecia and ascospores of ophiostomatoid fungi were collected from plant material and mounted in 85% lactic acid for observation. Perithecia, conidia and conidiophores that formed in culture were treated similarly and all structures were studied using Leica EZ4, Nikon SMZ18 or Nikon Eclipse Ni microscopes. Photographs of microscopic structures were taken with a Nikon digital camera (DS-Ri2, Nikon, Tokyo, Japan). Twenty-five measurements of all morphologically and taxonomically informative structures were made for representative isolates including those chosen as ex-type strains of the undescribed taxa. The maximum and minimum measurements for each taxonomically informative structure was noted. Rayner's colour chart (1970) was used for the description of colony characteristics.

DNA extraction, amplification and sequencing

Fungal cultures resembling ophiostomatoid fungi were grouped into morphotypes based on micro-morphological and colony characteristics. At least three isolates representing each morphotype were randomly chosen for DNA sequencing (Table 1). A sterile scalpel was used to harvest fungal mycelium from the edges of actively growing pure cultures on MEA. Following the manufacturer's instructions, a Sigma-Aldrich™ plant extraction kit (USA) was used for the extraction of genomic DNA. To amplify the internal transcribed spacer (ITS1, ITS2) and 5.8S gene regions, the primers ITS1F (Gardes and Bruns 1993) and ITS4 (White et al. 1990) were used. Preliminary phylogenetic placements were based on ITS sequence data and additional gene regions required for more accurate identifications were selected according to these preliminary analyses and following De Beer et al. (2013a, b).

A fragment of the Beta-tubulin (β T) gene was amplified with primers Bt2a and Bt2b (Glass and Donaldson 1995) for selected isolates (Table 1). Part of the transcription elongation factor-1 α gene was amplified using primers EF1-F and EF2-R (Jacobs et al. 2004). Choice of particular markers used for phylogenetic analyses was based on

availability of sequences for comparisons of the different taxa in GenBank and on the most informative markers for those particular taxa based on previous studies (De Beer et al. 2016; Lynch et al. 2016; Reid and Hausner 2015). PCR conditions were as described by Musvuugwa et al. (2015). PCR reactions were conducted using a Gene Amp^R PCR system 2700 thermal cycler (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, U.S.A.).

Table 1.Culture collection and GenBank accession numbers for strains of ophiostomatoid fungi isolated from different native CFR trees collected in this study

Species	CMW	CBS	ITS	βТ	EF	Host tree	Site
Graphilbum roseum sp. nov.	40349	141074	KY05075 1	n.a	n.a	Curtisia dentata	Gouna Forest
	40350	141075	KY05075	n.a	n.a	C. dentata	Gouna Forest
	40351	141076	KY05075 2	n.a	n.a	Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus	Groenkop Forest
	40353	n.a	KY05075	n.a	n.a	Halleria lucida	Gouna Forest
Graphium sp.	40354	141072	KY05075 7	n.a	n.a	llex mitis	Assegaaibosch
	40355	141071	KY05075 5	n.a	KY321426	I. mitis	Assegaaibosch
	40356	141073	KY05075 6	n.a	n.a	I. mitis	Assegaaibosch
Sporothrix oleae sp. nov.	40360	142026	KY05075 8	KY094078	n.a	Olea capensis ssp. macrocarpa	Gouldveld Forest
	40361	142027	MN29885 0	KY094079	n.a	O. capensis ssp. macrocarpa	Goudveld Forest
	40362	142082	MN29885 1	KY094080	n.a	O. capensis ssp. macrocarpa	Gouldveld Forest

All PCR products were amplified, separated using agarose gel electrophoresis stained with GelRed (Biotium Inc., California, U.S.A.) and visualized under ultraviolet light. Following the manufacturer's instructions, all amplified PCR products were cleaned using the EXOSAP-IT kit (USB Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.). Purified fragments were sequenced using the respective PCR primers and a Big Dye™ Terminator v3.0 cycle sequencing premix kit (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, U.S.A.) and analysed on an ABI PRISM™ 3100 Genetic Analyser (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, U.S.A.). Sequencing conditions followed those used by

Musvuugwa et al. (2015) and both DNA strands were sequenced using the same primers used for PCR amplification. Consensus sequences were constructed from the resultant sequences using the CLC Genomics Workbench software package (CLCBio, Aarhus, Denmark). Sequences generated in this study were deposited in NCBI GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) (Table 1).

Phylogenetic analyses

Using ITS sequences, BLAST algorithm (Altschul et al. 1990) searches were conducted on the GenBank sequence database in order to preliminarily identify the fungal isolates. Sequences of taxa that were closely related to isolates collected in this study (Table 1) were downloaded from GenBank and aligned with sequences generated in this study for each data set using MAFFT 6 (Katoh and Toh 2008). Datasets were analysed using Bayesian inference (BI) with MrBayes 3.2 (Ronquist et al. 2012) and maximum likelihood (ML) methods [RAxML 8.2.10 (Stamatakis 2014) on CIPRES Science Gateway (Miller et al. 2010; https://www.phylo.org/portal2)]. A mixed model was used in MrBayes analyses to average models in the GTR family, and including a Γ correction. Two independent Markov chains were run simultaneously for 10 million generations starting from a random tree. A sample frequency of 2000 was implemented, and the first 2.5 million generations discarded as burnin. The remaining trees were pooled into a 50% majority rule consensus tree. Default settings and the default model (GTR+Γ) were used for all RAxML analyses, and confidence support values for nodes were estimated using 1000 bootstrap replicates.

Growth in culture

The temperature for optimal growth of selected cultures of putative new taxa was determined by transferring mycelium-covered disks of agar (5 mm diam) from edges of actively growing 1 week old cultures to the centres of 90 mm fresh Petri dishes containing 20 mL 2% MEA. These plates were incubated in the dark at a range of different temperatures (from 5°C to 35°C at intervals of 5°C) for 10 days. The experiment was replicated five times, each replicate using a different strain. After the 10-day incubation period, colony diameters at the optimal growth temperature were determined by calculating the average of two perpendicular measurements per colony and then calculating the mean per taxon.

Results

Fungal isolates and Phylogenetic analyses

In total, 21 ophiostomatoid fungi were isolated and grouped on the basis of micromorphological and colony characteristics into three different morphotypes; seven isolates resembling species in the genus *Sporothrix* collected from *Olea capensis* ssp. *macrocarpa* trees in Gouldveld, eight *Graphilbum* isolates collected from *Curtisia dentata*, *Halleria lucida* L., *Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus*, *Trichocladus crinitus* (Thunb.) Pers. and *O. capensis* ssp. *macrocarpa* from the Groenkop and Gouna forests; and six *Graphium* isolates from *Ilex mitis* (L.) Radlk. in Assegaaibosch (Table 1). Generic placement of these isolates were confirmed by ITS data.

The phylogenetic placement of the *Graphilbum* was assessed using only ITS data because no other loci have yet been provided for *Graphilbum* species (Reid and Hausner 2015) (Fig. 1). Placement of the *Sporothrix* taxon was first investigated using ITS data (Appendix 1), but also βT data as it is not possible to distinguish between closely related members in this clade based only on ITS data (De Beer et al. 2016) (Fig. 2). Placement of the *Graphium* taxon was assessed using ITS (Appendix 2) and EF (Fig. 3) data following Lynch et al. (2016). GenBank accession numbers for all other taxa used in analyses are presented on the respective phylogenetic trees (Figs. 1–3) and in Table 2.

Table 2. Culture collection and GenBank accession numbers for strains of ophiostomatoid used for phylogenetic analyses

Species	Isolate/Strain number	ITS	βt	EF	Substrate	Country of origin	References
Graphilbum sp.	CXY1939	MH55903	n.a	n.a	Tomicus yunnanensis	China	HuiMin et al. 2019
<i>Graphilbum</i> sp.	KFL342NDB16AO	MH740929	n.a	n.a	Hardwood tree	Poland	Ostafinska et al. 2018 (unpublished)
Graphilbum sp.	HG19	KX099637	n.a	n.a	Pinus sylvestris var. mongolica	China	Wang 2016 (unpublished)
Graphilbum sp. 1	55KFJD	KY568111	n.a	n.a	Pityokteines curvidens	Poland	Jankowiak et al. 2017
Graphilbum sp. 2	132aMFJD	KY568118	n.a	n.a	Pissodes piceae	Poland	Jankowiak et al. 2017
Graphilbum sp. 3	C2316	GU129997	n.a	n.a	Hylurgus ligniperda	USA	Kim et al. 2011
Graphilbum sp. 4	C2477	GU129987	n.a	n.a	H. ligniperda	USA	Kim et al. 2011
Graphilbum sp. 5	CMW 26258	EU785449	n.a	n.a	Dendroctonus valens	China	Lu et al. 2009
Graphilbum sp. 6	CMW 22829	DQ539535	n.a	n.a	Pinus radiata	Spain	Romon et al. 2007
Graphilbum sp. 7	C1496	DQ062977	n.a	n.a	P. radiata	New Zealand	Thwaites et al. 2005
Gra. fragrans	C1224	AF198248	n.a	n.a	Unknown	Sweden	Harrington et al. 2001
Gra. kesiyae	CMW41657	MG205668	n.a	n.a	Pinus kesiya	China	Chang et al. 2017
Gra. microcarpum	YCC612	GU134170	n.a	n.a	Ips subelongatus	Japan	Lin et al. 2009 (unpublished)
Gra. nigrum	CBS163.61	MH858010	n.a	n.a	Unknown	USA	Vu et al. 2019
Gra. puerense	CMW41942	MG205671	n.a	n.a	P. kesiya	China	Chang et al. 2017

Gra. rectangulosporium	TFM:FPH 7756	AB242825	n.a	n.a	Abies sp.	Japan	Ohtaka et al. 2006
Gra. sparsum	CBS405.77	MH861010	n.a	n.a	Unknown	USA	Vu et al. 2019
Gra. tsugae	UAMH 11701	NR137871	n.a	n.a	Tsuga heterophylla	Canada	Reid and Hausner 2015
Graphium sp.	UCR2162	n.a	n.a	KJ131241	Persea americana	USA	Twizeyimana et al. 2014 (unpublished)
Graphium sp.	UCR2163	n.a	n.a	KJ131242	P. americana	USA	Twizeyimana et al. 2014 (unpublished)
Graphium sp.	UCR2137	n.a	n.a	KJ131246	P. americana	USA	Twizeyimana et al. 2014 (unpublished)
Graphium sp.	UCR2140	n.a	n.a	KJ131247	P. americana	USA	Twizeyimana et al. 2014 (unpublished)
Graphium sp.	UCR2289	n.a	n.a	KM592360	P. americana	USA	Lynch et al. 2016
Graphium sp.	UCR2291	n.a	n.a	KM592361	P. americana	USA	Lynch et al. 2016
Graphium sp.	UCR2132	n.a	n.a	KM363259	unknown	USA	Twizeyimana et al. 2014 (unpublished)
G. adansoniae	CMW30617	n.a	n.a	HM630596	Adansonia digitata	South Africa	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW30618	n.a	n.a	HM630598	A. digitata	South Africa	
	CMW30619	n.a	n.a	n.a	A. digitata	South Africa	
	CMW30620	n.a	n.a	HM630597	A. digitata	South Africa	
	CMW30621	n.a	n.a	n.a	A. digitata	South Africa	
	CMW30624	n.a	n.a	n.a	A. digitata	South Africa	
	CMW30622			HM630599	A. digitata	South Africa	

G. basitruncatum	JCM 9300	AB038427	n.a	KJ131248	Forest soil	Solomon Islands	Kumar et al. 2007
						Canada	
G. carbonarium	CMW12420	n.a	n.a	HM630603	Salix babylonica, Pissodes sp	China	Cruywagen et al. 2010; Paciura et
	CMW12418	n.a	n.a	HM630602	S. babylonica, Pissodes sp	China	al. 2010
G. euwallaceae	UCR2308	n.a	n.a	KM592363	Acacia auriculiformis	Vietnam	Lynch et al. 2016
	UCRFD97	n.a	n.a	KF534806	Euwallacea sp.	USA	
G. fabiforme	CMW30626	GQ200616	n.a	HM630592	Adansonia rubrostipa	Madagascar	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW30627	GQ200617	n.a	HM630593	A. rubrostipa	Madagascar	
G. fimbriisporum	CMW5605	AY148177	n.a	HM630590	Picea abies	France	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW5606	AY148180	n.a	HM630591	P. abies	Austria	
G. kuroshium	UCR4622	KX262285	n.a	KX262295	Euwallacea sp	USA	Na et al. 2018
	UCR4593	KX262276	n.a	KX262286	P. americana	USA	
G. laricis	CMW5603	AY148182	n.a	HM630589	Larix decidua	Austria	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW5601	AY148183	n.a	HM630588	L. decidua	Austria	
G. madagascariense	CMW30628	GQ200619	n.a	HM630595	Adansonia rubrostipa	Madagascar	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW30629	GQ200620	n.a	HM630594	A. rubrostipa	Madagascar	
G. penicillioides	CMW5292	n.a	n.a	HM630600	Populus nigra	Czech Republic	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW5295	n.a	n.a	HM630601	P. nigra	Czech Republic	

G. pseudormiticum	CMW503	AY148186	n.a	HM630586	Pinus sp.	South Africa	Cruywagen et al. 2010
	CMW12285	FJ434981	n.a	HM630587	Tsuga dumosa	China	
O. piliferum	CBS129.32	AF221070	n.a	n.a	Unknown	Europe	Schroeder et al. 2001
Sporothrix abietina	CMW22310	n.a	HM067820	n.a	Abies vejari	Mexico	Linnakoski et al. 2010
S. aemulophila	CMW40381	n.a	KT192607	n.a	Rapanea melanophloeos	South Africa	Musvuugwa et al. 2015
	CMW40382	n.a	KT192608	n.a	Rapanea melanophloeos	South Africa	
S. africanum	CMW1104	n.a	DQ316162	n.a	Protea caffra	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. aurorae	CMW19362	n.a	DQ396800	n.a	Pinus elliottii	South Africa	Zhou et al. 2006
S. brasiliensis	IPEC 16490	n.a	AM116946	n.a	Human	Brazil	Marimon et al. 2006
S. cabralli	CIEFAP456	n.a	KT381295	n.a	Nothofagus sp.	Patagonia	De Errasti et al. 2016
	CIEFAP458	n.a	KT381296	n.a	Nothofagus sp.	Patagonia	
S. candida	CMW26484	n.a	HM041874	n.a	Eucalyptus cloezina	South Africa	Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2012
	CMW26485	n.a	HM041871	n.a	E. cloezina	South Africa	
	CMW26486	n.a	HM041872	n.a	E. cloezina	South Africa	
	CMW26483	n.a	HM041873	n.a	E. cloezina	South Africa	
S. dentifunda	CMW13016	n.a	AY495445	n.a	Quercus wood	Hungary	Aghayeva et al. 2005
S. dimorphospora	CMW12529	n.a	AY495439	n.a	Soil	Canada	Aghayeva et al. 2005
S. fusiformis	CMW9968	n.a	AY280461	n.a	Populus nigra	Azerbaijan	Aghayeva et al. 2004
S. gemella	CMW23057	n.a	DQ821554	n.a	Protea caffra	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. globosa	FMR 8600	n.a	AM116966	n.a	Clinical	Spain	Marimon et al. 2006
S. humicola	CMW7618	n.a	EF139100	n.a	Soil	South Africa	De Beer et al. 2003

S. inflata	CMW12527	n.a	AY495437	n.a	Wheat-field soil	Germany	Aghayeva et al. 2005
S. itsvo	TM-2016a	n.a	KU639626	n.a	Rapanea melanophloeos	South Africa	Musvuugwa et al. 2016
	CMW40370	n.a	KU639625	n.a	R. melanophloeos	South Africa	
	CMW40326	n.a	KU639628	n.a	R. melanophloeos	South Africa	
S. lunata	CMW10565	n.a	AY280465	n.a	Larix decidua	Austria	Aghayeva et al. 2004
S. Iuriei	ATCC18616T	n.a	AM747289	n.a	Clinical	South Africa	Marimon et al. 2008
S. mexicana	CBS 120341	n.a	AM498344	n.a	Environmental	Mexico	Madrid et al. 2010
S. pallida	CMW40330	n.a	KT192610	n.a	Olea capensis	South Africa	Musvuugwa et al. 2015; De Meyer
	CMW40331	n.a	KT192611	n.a	O. capensis	South Africa	et al. 2008
	CMW40332	n.a	KT192612	n.a	O. capensis	South Africa	
	CBS150.87	n.a	EF139109	n.a	Sediment in water purification	Germany	
	CBS131.56	n.a	EF139110	n.a	plant	Japan	
	CBS182.63	n.a	EF139111	n.a	Stermonitis fusca	Netherlands	
					Garden soil		
S. palmiculminata	CMW20677	n.a	DQ316153	n.a	Protea repens	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. phasma	CMW20676	n.a	n.a	n.a	P. laurifola	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. protearum	CMW1103	n.a	DQ316165	n.a	P. caffra	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. proteasedis	CFR123	n.a	EU660466	n.a	Protea sp.	South Africa	Roets et al. 2009
S. rapaneae	CMW40368	n.a	KU639623	n.a	Rapanea melanophloeos	South Africa	Musvuugwa et al. 2016
	CMW40369	n.a	KU639624	n.a	R. melanophloeos	South Africa	
	CMW40367	n.a	KU639622	n.a	R. melanophloeos	South Africa	

S. schenckii	CBS 359.36T	n.a	AM116911	n.a	Not known	Not known	Marimon et al. 2006
S. splendens	CMW20674	n.a	DQ316166	n.a	Protea repens	South Africa	Roets et al. 2006
S. stenoceras	CMW3202	n.a	AY280471	n.a	Pine pulp	South Africa	Aghayeva et al. 2004
S. stylites	CMW14543	n.a	EF139096	n.a	Pine utility pole	South Africa	De Meyer et al. 2008
S. uta	CMW40316	n.a	KU639616	n.a	Rapanea melanophloeos	South Africa	Musvuugwa et. al. 2016
					R. melanophloeos	South Africa	
					R. melanophloeos	South Africa	
S. varieciabatus	CMW23060	n.a	DQ821573	n.a	Protea longifolia	South Africa	Roets et al. 2008
S. zambiensis	CMW28604	n.a	EU660473	n.a	P. caffra	Zambia	Roets et al. 2009



Fig. 1 Bayesian Inference consensus tree based on ITS sequence data for species of *Graphilbum*. Numbers of isolates obtained in the present study are printed in bold type. Values above nodes indicate posterior probabilities obtained through Bayesian Inference. Values below nodes indicate bootstrap values (1000 replicates) obtained from Maximum Likelihood analysis. The scale bar is in substitutions per site.

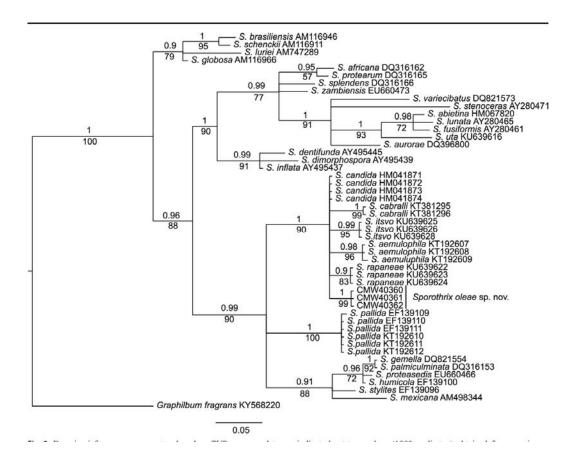


Fig. 2 Bayesian Inference consensus tree based on βT sequence data for species of *Sporothrix*. Numbers of isolates collected in the present study are printed in bold type. Values above nodes indicate posterior probabilities obtained through Bayesian Inference. Values below nodes indicate bootstrap values (1000 replicates) obtained from Maximum Likelihood analysis. The scale bar is in substitutions per site.

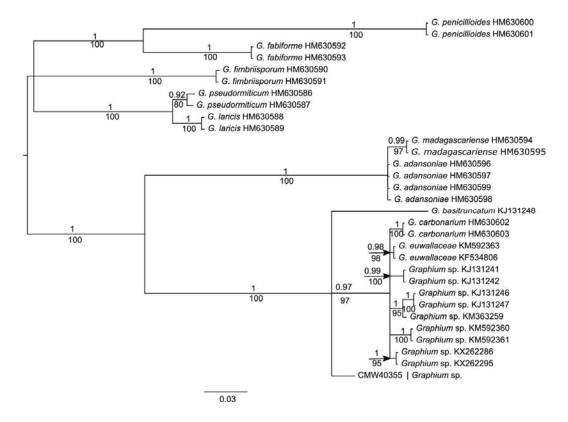


Fig. 3 Bayesian Inference consensus tree based on EF sequences of *Graphium* species. Numbers of isolates collected in the present study are printed in bold type. Values above nodes indicate posterior probabilities obtained through Bayesian Inference. Values below nodes indicate bootstrap values (1000 replicates) obtained from Maximum Likelihood analysis. The scale bar is in substitutions per site.

Based on ITS data, isolates of the *Graphilbum* grouped as a distinct taxon (Fig. 1) sister to an unnamed *Graphilbum* species previously collected from *Pinus radiata* D. Don in Australia (Thwaites et al. 2005). The *Sporothrix* isolates resolved within the *S. candida* species complex with strong support when both ITS (Appendix 1) and βT data (Fig. 2) were analized. Based on the βT data set, isolates of this taxon formed monophyletic clade, but resolution for taxa in the *S. candida* species complex remain poor (Fig. 2). Isolates of the *Graphium* taxon grouped in a clade containing *G. basitruncatum* (Matsush.) Seifert & G. Okada, *G. carbonarium* Paciura, Z.W. de Beer, X.D. Zhou & M.J. Wingf., *G. euwallaceae* Twizeyim., S.C. Lynch & Eskalen, *G. jumulu* P.A. Barber & Crous and various undercribed taxa based on ITS (Appendix 2) and EF sequences (Fig. 3). For ITS, rooting of the tree containing *Graphilbum* followed de Beer et al. (2016) and *Ophiostoma piliferum* (Fr.) Syd. & P. Syd. was used as the outgroup, and the *Sporothrix* ITS data set was rooted using *Graphilbum rectangulosporium*

(Ohtaka, Masuya & Yamaoka) Z.W. de Beer & M.J. Wingf.. *Graphilbum fragrans* (Math.-Käärik) Z.W. de Beer, Seifert & M.J. Wingf. was used as outgroup for the *Sporothrix* BT data set. The *Graphium* ITS data set was rooted using *Scedosporium* and *Parascedosporium* as outgroups following Lackner and De Hoog (2011). For the more limited *Graphium* EF data set, the tree was rooted as to be maximally consistent with the ITS tree and was rooted using *Graphium penicillioides* Corda as outgroup.

TAXONOMY

The *Sporothrix* and *Graphilbum* taxa collected from wounds on native Afromontane forest trees were recognised as new species based on a combination of evidence from phylogenetic analyses and micro-morphological characteristics. These are described below. A detailed morphological description of the *Graphium* taxon isolated in the present study is also provided to aid future comparative studies. This taxon may also represent an undescribed species, but currently there is insufficient morphological and molecular data to support this hypothesis.

Sporothrix oleae Musvuugwa, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets, sp. nov. Figures 4a–f. **Mycobank MB 822536**

Etymology: The epithet *oleae* refers to the genus name of the host (*Olea capensis* ssp. *macrocarpa*).

Ascomata embedded in or superficial on host substrate ellipsoidal to subglobose, black, covered with pigmented hyphae in culture, 90–150 µm diam (150–240 µm diam in culture); necks black, upright, 320-580 µm long (up to 1.6 mm long in culture), 17-32 µm wide at the base, 4-8 µm wide at the apex; ostiolar hyphae divergent, hyaline, often septate, straight, tapering towards the apex, 15–43 µm long. Asci not observed. Ascospores kidney-shaped (almost triangular) in side view with pointed ends, aseptate, hyaline, sheaths not observed, 2.5–4.5 × 1.5–2 μm (avg. 3.4 × 1.8 μm), accumulating in transparent sticky droplets at tips of necks, milky white when masses are dry. Conidiophores in culture one-celled or occasionally branched and bearing several conidiogenous cells, either borne on vegetative hyphae or on upright hyphae. Conidiogenous cells blastic, cylindrical, tapering towards the apex, denticulate, distally often with inflated clusters of denticles, 15–25 µm long, 1–2 µm wide near the base. Conidia hyaline, aseptate, ellipsoidal with a pointed base, 3-5.5 × 2-3 µm (avg. 4.2 × 2.5 µm). Colonies pale yellow (19"f), fluffy towards the centre, circular with entire edge, odourless. Colony diameter reaching 42 mm after 10 d on 2% MEA at optimal growth temperature of 25°C. No growth below 10°C or above 35°C.

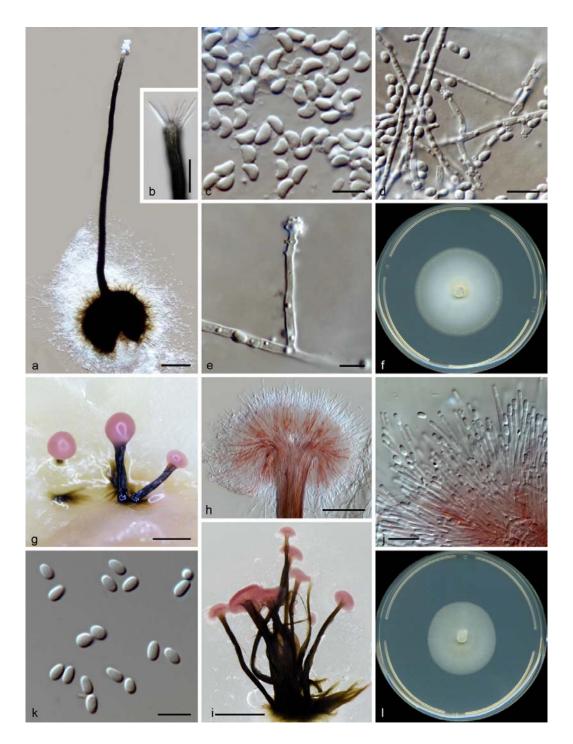


Fig. 4 Microscopic features of *Sporothrix olea*e sp. nov. and *Graphilbum roseum* sp. nov.; a–f. *S. oleae* (ex-holotype, CMW 40362 = CBS 142082). a. Ascoma produced in culture. b. Diverging ostiolar hyphae. c. Ascospores. d. Conidiogenous cells and conidia, e. Conidiogenous cell with an inflated cluster of denticles at the apex. f. Colony grown in the dark at 25 °C for 10 d; g–l *G. roseum* (ex-holotype, CMW 40349 = CBS 141074). g–i. Synnemata produced in culture with slimy conidial mass at the top. j. Conidiogenous cells. k. Conidia. L. Colony grown in the dark at 25 °C for 10 d. Scale bars: μm, a = 100 μm, b = 25 μm, c, e, k = 5 μm, g, i = 500, h = 50 μm, j = 10 μm

Typification: South Africa, Western Cape Province, Gouldveld. *Olea capensis* ssp. *macrocarpa* wound on tree trunk covered with ascomata, October 2011, T. Musvuugwa, **holotype** PREM 61674; culture ex-holotype CMW 40362 = CBS 142082. Same location, damaged tree trunk of different tree individual of same species, PREM 61672 (**paratype**); culture ex-paratype CMW 40360 = CBS 142026. PREM 61673 (**paratype**); culture ex-paratype CMW 40361 = CBS 142027.

Notes. *Sporothrix oleae* grouped with *S. aemulophila*, *S. cabralii*, *S. candida*, *S. itsvo* and *S. rapaneae* within the *S. candida* species complex, all of which produce sexual state except for *S. cabralii*. These species share some common features such as optimal growth temperature (25–30°C) and the presence of ostiolar hyphae. Among these closely-related species, *S. oleae* can be easily distinguished from the rest by its nearly triangular ascospores. Even though ascospores of *S. itsvo* and *S. candida* were described in their original descriptions as reniform and kidney-shaped, respectively, judging from the images provided, their ascospores are rather allantoid to curved oblong (Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2012; Musvuugwa et al. 2016a). Ascospore dimensions separate *S. oleae* (2.5–4.5 × 1.5–2 μ m) from *S. itsvo* (1.3–2.4 × 0.3–0.5 μ m) but *S. oleae* shares similar ranges with *S. aemulophila* (2–5.5 × 0.2–1.8 μ m), *S. rapaneae* (2.8–4.7 × 0.3–0.6 μ m) and *S. candida* (3.5–5 × 1–1.7 μ m).

Graphilbum roseum Musvuugwa, L.L. Dreyer & F. Roets, sp. nov. Figures 4g–l. Mycobank MB 822537

Etymology: The epithet *roseum* (Latin for pink or rosy) refers to the pink conidial masses produced by synnemata.

Ascomata not observed. Asexual sporulation from *synnemata* determinate with terminal, slimy conidial masses formed on the surface of host substrate and also on 2% MEA incubated for 4 weeks in the dark at 25°C, up to 2.2 mm long including conidiogenous cells; stipes black, subapically dark to pale brown, 14–150 μm wide at base, 19–110 μm wide apically. Heads of synnemata branched in 4–5 tiers, up to 390 μm wide, conidial mass hyaline when young, becoming pink with age and red when dry. *Conidiogenous cells* annellidic, hyaline, cylindrical, tapering towards the apex, 14.5–19 μm long, 1–2 μm wide at the base, 1–1.5 μm wide near the apex. *Conidia* hyaline, aseptate, smooth, oblong to ovoidal, 2–3.5 × 1–2 μm (avg. 2.9 × 1.6 μm). *Colonies* pale yellow (19"f) with hyaline edge, becoming light to moderate yellowish brown (17"b) at centres, firm in texture at edges. Colony diameter reaching 29.5 mm

after 10 d on 2% MEA at optimal growth temperature of 25°C. No growth below 10°C or above 30°C.

Typification: South Africa, Western Cape Province, Gouna. *Curtisia dentata* wound on branch covered with synnemata, October 2011, T. Musvuugwa, **holotype** PREM 61337; culture ex-holotype CMW 40349 = CBS 141074. Same location, damaged branch of a different tree of same species, PREM 61338 (**paratype**); culture exparatype CMW 40350 = CBS 141075. South Africa, Western Cape Province, Groenkop. *Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus* wound on trunk covered with synnemata, October 2011, T. Musvuugwa, PREM 61339 (**paratype**); culture ex-paratype CMW 40351 = CBS 141076.

Notes. Graphilbum roseum grouped closest to Graphilbum sp. 7, one of several undescribed taxa in the genus (De Beer and Wingfield 2013). Graphilbum roseum is known only from its asexual state, but its synnematous *Pesotum*-like conidiophores with conidia in slimy masses resemble other species in the genus (De Beer et al. 2013a). No other *Graphilbum* species have been reported to produce pink conidial masses. Rather they usually produce cream coloured conidia (e.g. Mathiesen-Käärik 1953). In comparison with *G. fragrans*, an apparently closely related species to *G. roseum*, conidiogenous cells for *G, fragrans* are 10-43 μm long and 1-1.5 μm wide (Mathiesen-Käärik 1953), while those of *G. roseum* are 14.5-19 μm long, 1-2 μm wide. For *G. fragrans*, conidia are 3-6 x 1-2 μm, while for *G. roseum* they are 2-3.5 x 1-2 μm. *Graphilbum roseum*, provisionally called *G. roseus* in Musvuugwa (2014), was also isolated from various mite species associated with wounds on the host trees, suggesting that they may be intimately involved in the ecology of this fungus (Musvuugwa 2014; Musvuugwa et al. 2016b).

Graphium sp. (Fig. 5)

Based on sequence data, the *Graphium* species grouped with *G. basitruncatum*, *G. carbonarium*, *G. euwallaceae* and numerous undescribed taxa. All of these species produce both conidia and chlamydospores (Lynch et al. 2016) that vary little in size and shape between different taxa. The taxon isolated in the present study differs from *G. basitruncatum* in that the conidia of the latter are more slender (Matsushima 1971). All isolates of this taxon were obtained from conidiophore-covered wounds on branches of *Ilex mitis* at Assegaibosch, Stellenbosch, Western Cape Province, South Africa.



Fig. 5 Microscopic features of *Graphium ilicis* sp. nov. (ex-holotype CMW 40355 = CBS 141071). a. Conidiophores. b. Synnematous conidiophore and chlamydospores (arrows). c. Mononematous conidiophores. d. Conidia. e. Colony grown in the dark at 25 °C for 10 d. Scale bars: $a = 100 \mu m$, $b = 10 \mu m$, $c = 50 \mu m$, $d = 5 \mu m$

Description: *Conidiophores* on host tissues and in culture variable, micronematous to macronematous, mononematous, simple or branched, occasionally synnematous in old cultures. *Conidiogenous* cells blastic, hyaline, cylindrical, straight or flexuous, 6–60 x 1–2 μ m. *Conidia* hyaline, aseptate, oblong to obovate with a truncate base, straight or slightly curved, 3–5.5 x 1.5–3 μ m (avg. 4.4 × 2.1 μ m). *Chlamydospores* subhyaline to slightly pigmented, thick-walled, aseptate, ellipsoidal,4.5–7 × 2.5–4.5 μ m (avg. 5.7 × 3.8 μ m). *Colonies* white, greyish in the centre, fluffy appearance, with edges crenated; optimal temperature for growth is at 25°C on MEA, with colony diameter reaching 29.1 mm after 10 days. No growth at or below 10°C. Causes black staining of host wood. *Ascomata* not observed.

Discussion

In previous CFR-based assessments of native host trees, a diverse array of ophiostomatoid fungi were found associated with wounds (Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2008; Musvuugwa et al. 2016a, b) and subcortical beetles (Musvuugwa et al. 2015). Here, two species belonging to the Ophiostomatales and one species belonging to the Microascales were isolated from wounds on native trees growing in the Afromontane forests of the Cape Floristic Region (CFR), of which two are decribed in separate genera.

Sporothrix oleae is a member of the S. candida complex (De Beer et al. 2016). Several recently described species, isolated from these forests, also belong to this complex (Musvuugwa et al. 2015, 2016a). Until the recent isolation of the beetle-associated Sporothrix pallida and Raffaelea vaginata (Musvuugwa et al. 2015), no other ophiostomatoid fungus had been recorded from O. capensis ssp. macrocarpa. Based on our analyses, S. oleae is closely related to S. candida sensu stricto, a known associate of Cerambycidae beetles that were isolated from wounds on Eucalyptus cloeziana F. Muell in South Africa (Kamgan Nkuekam et al. 2012), S. rapaneae from Xyleborinus aemulus and its galleries on Rapanea melanophloeos (Musvuugwa et al. 2015), and S. itsvo and S. aemulophila from damaged wood and inner bark of R. melanophloeos (Musvuugwa et al. 2016a). The only species in the complex that does not originate from South Africa is S. cabralii de Errasti & Z.W. de Beer from galleries of Gnathotrupes ambrosia beetles on dead wood of Nothofagus pumilio (Poepp. & Endl.) Krasser in Argentina (De Errasti et al. 2016). All species in the complex thus target hardwoods in the Southern Hemisphere, and although not confirmed, most probably are all vectored by arthropods.

Graphilbum roseum belongs to a genus that groups basal to other genera in the Ophiostomatales (De Beer and Wingfield 2013). The genus comprises ten named and several unnamed species (De Beer and Wingfield 2013, Reid and Hausner 2015) collected from various parts of the world, including Canada, Europe, America and Australia (Geldenhuis et al. 2004; Kim et al. 2005). Graphilbum sp. 7, the closest relative of G. roseum, was initially reported as an unnamed Pesotum J.L. Crane & Schkn. species from sapstain on Pinus radiata in Australia (De Beer and Wingfield 2013; Thwaites et al. 2005). Although G. roseum was isolated from wounds, some of the other species in the genus are associated with conifer-infesting bark beetles (De Beer et al. 2013a; Reid and Hausner 2015). Graphilbum fragrans (Mathiesen-Käärik) Z.W. de Beer, Seifert & M.J. Wingf., for example, has been isolated from Ips sexdentatus Borner infesting Pinus sylvestris L. in Sweden (Mathiesen-Käärik 1953). In South Africa, the same species was associated with *Hylastes angustatus* Herbst infesting *Pinus patula* Schiede ex Schltdl. Cham. in Mpumalanga (Zhou et al. 2006). Unlike the other two species described in this study, G. roseum was isolated from several host trees, including Curtisia dentata, Halleria lucida, Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus, Trichocladus crinitus and Olea capensis ssp. macrocarpa. It is known to be pathogenic to indigenous (e.g. Curtisia dentata and Rapanea melanophloeos) and exotic (Acacia mearnsii and Eucalyptus grandis) hardwood trees and is likely dispersed by mites and other wound-associated arthropods (Musvuugwa et al. 2016b).

Graphium belongs to the Microascales. The species most closely related to the taxon isolated in the present study based on molecular studies seems to be G. basitruncatum, which was first isolated from forest soil in the Solomon Islands (Matsushima 1971). It has also been isolated as an opportunistic human pathogen from a patient with leukaemia in Canada (Deepali et al. 2007). Graphium carbonarium, a member in the clade that is sister to G. ilicis and G. basitruncatum, was first described from a Pissodes Germar weevil infesting Salix babylonica L. in China (Paciura et al. 2010), but this species, and all other taxa in this clade, seem to be commonly associated with Euwallaceae sp. ambrosia beetles (Scolytinae) from the USA (invaded habitats) and Asia (putative origin) (Lynch et al. 2016). This represents a major difference between the taxon collected in the present study and most other species in the genus in that it is wound-associated (De Beer et al. 2013b; Geldenhuis et al. 2004; Lynch et al. 2016; Okada et al. 2000; Paciura et al. 2010). Other Graphium species isolated from South Africa include G. adansoniae Cruywagen, Z.W. de Beer & Jol. Roux isolated from Adansonia digitata L. (Cruywagen et al. 2010) and G. pseudormiticum from a bark beetle on exotic pine trees (Mouton et al. 1994). There

are no sexual stages known for species in this genus (De Beer et al. 2013b). To the best of our knowledge, no other ophiostomatoid fungus has to date been isolated from *llex mitis*.

Acknowledgements

The authors thank the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI)/National Research Foundation (NRF) Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology (CTHB) for financial support, the South African National Parks Board (SANPARKS) and Western Cape Nature Conservation Board for issuing the necessary collecting permits. N. Machingambi, P.C. Benade and D. van der Colff assisted with field work. Thanks also to the annonomus reviewers and the section editor that has made considerable contributions to improving our manuscript.

Conflict of Interest: The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

References

- Aghayeva DN, Wingfield MJ, de Beer Z.W, Kirisits T (2004) Two new *Ophiostoma* species with *Sporothrix* anamorphs from Austria and Azerbaijan. Mycologia 96: 866-878
- Aghayeva DN, Wingfield MJ, Kirisits T, Wingfield BD (2005) *Ophiostoma dentifundum* sp. nov. from oak in Europe, characterized using molecular phylogenetic data and morphology. Mycol Res 109: 1127-1136
- Altschul SF, Gish W, Miller W, Myers EW, Lipman DJ (1990) Basic local alignment search tool. J Mol Biol 215:403–410
- Brasier CM, Buck KW (2001) Rapid evolutionary changes in a globally invading fungal pathogen (Dutch elm disease). Biol Invasions 3:223–233
- Brooks T, Balmford A, Burgess N, Fjeldsa J, Hansen LA, Moore J, Rahbek C, Williams P (2001) Towards a blueprint for conservation. Africa. BioScience 51:613–624
- Chang R, Duong TA, Taerum SJ, Wingfield MJ, Zhou X, de Beer ZW (2017)

 Ophiostomatoid fungi associated with conifer-infesting beetles and their phoretic mites in Yunnan, China. MycoKeys 28: 19-64
- Crous PW, Rong IH, Wood A, Lee S, Glen H, Botha W, Slippers B, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Hawksworth DL (2006) How many species of fungi are there at the tip of Africa? Stud Mycol 55:13–33

- Crous PW, Wingfield MJ, Guarro J, Hernandez-Restrepo M, Sutton DA et al. (2015) Fungal Planet description sheets: 320-370. Persoonia 34: 167-266
- Cruywagen EM, de Beer ZW, Roux J, Wingfield MJ (2010) Three new *Graphium* species from baobab trees in South Africa and Madagascar. Persoonia 25:61–71
- De Beer ZW, Duong TA, Wingfield MJ (2016) The divorce of *Sporothrix* and *Ophiostoma*: solution to a problematic relationship. Stud Mycol 83:165–191
- De Beer ZW, Harrington TC, Vismer HF, Wingfield BD, Wingfield MJ (2003) Phylogeny of the *Ophiostoma stenoceras-Sporothrix schenckii* complex. Mycologia 95: 434-441
- De Beer ZW, Seifert KA, Wingfield MJ (2013a) The ophiostomatoid fungi: their dual position in the *Sordarimycetes*. In: Seifert KA, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (eds) Ophiostomatoid fungi: expanding frontiers, CBS Biodiversity Series 12, Netherlands, pp 1–19
- De Beer ZW, Seifert KA, Wingfield MJ (2013b) A nomenclature for ophiostomatoid genera and species in the *Ophiostomatales* and *Microascales*. In: Seifert KA, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (eds) Ophiostomatoid fungi: expanding frontiers, CBS Biodiversity Series 12, Netherlands, pp 245–322
- De Beer ZW, Wingfield BD, Wingfield MJ (2003) The *Ophiostoma piceae* complex in the Southern Hemisphere: a phylogenetic study. Mycol Res 107:469–476
- De Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (2013) Emerging lineages in the Ophiostomatales. In: Seifert KA, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (eds) Ophiostomatoid fungi: expanding frontiers, CBS Biodiversity Series 12, Netherlands, pp 21–46
- Deepali K, Sigler L, Gibas CFC, Subhash M, Schuh A, Medeiros BC, Peckham K, Natul H (2007) *Graphium basitruncatum fungemia* in a patient with acute leukemia. J Clin Microbiol 45:1644–1647
- De Errasti A, de Beer ZW, Coetzee M, Roux J, Rajchenberg M, Wingfield MJ (2016)

 Three new species of Ophiostomatales from *Nothofagus* in Patagonia. Mycol Prog 15: 1-15
- De Meyer EM, de Beer ZW, Summerbell RC, Moharram AM, de Hoog GS, Vismer HF Wingfield MJ (2008) Taxonomy and phylogeny of new wood- and soil-inhabiting Sporothrix species in the Ophiostoma stenoceras-Sporothrix schenckii complex. Mycologia 100: 647-661

- Fourie A, Wingfield MJ, Wingfield BD, Barnes I (2015) Molecular markers delimit cryptic species in *Ceratocystis sensu stricto*. Mycol Prog 14:1–18
- Gardes M, Bruns TD (1993) ITS primers with enhanced specificity for basidiomycetes application to the identification of mycorrhizae and rusts. Mol Ecol 2:113–118
- Geldenhuis MM, Roux J, Montenegro F, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Wingfield BD (2004) Identification and pathogenicity of *Graphium* and *Pesotum* species from machete wounds on *Schizolobium parahybum* in Ecuador. Fungal Divers 15:137–151
- Geldenhuys CJ (2010) Distribution, size and ownership of forests in the Southern Cape. S Afr Forestry J 158:51–66
- Glass NL, Donaldson GC (1995) Development of primer sets designed for use with the PCR to amplify conserved genes from filamentous Ascomycetes. Appl Environ Microb 61:1323–1330
- Goldblatt P, Manning J (2000) Cape plants: A conspectus of the Cape Flora of South Africa. National Botanical Institute of South Africa, South Africa.
- Goldblatt P, Manning J (2000) Plant diversity of the Cape Region of Southern Africa.

 Ann Missouri Bot Gard 89: 281–302
- Harrington TC, Fraedrich SW, Aghayeva DN (2008) *Raffaelea lauricola*, a new ambrosia beetle symbiont and pathogen on the *Lauraceae*. Mycotaxon 104:399–404
- Harrington TC, McNew D, Steimel J, Hofstra D, Farrell R (2001) Phylogeny and taxonomy of the *Ophiostoma piceae* complex and the Dutch elm disease fungi. Mycologia 93: 111-136
- Heath RN, Wingfield MJ, Wingfield BD, Meke G, Mbaga A, Roux J (2009) *Ceratocystis* species on *Acacia mearnsii* and *Eucalyptus* spp. in eastern and southern Africa including six new species. Fungal Divers 34:41–67
- HuiMin W, Wang Z, Liu F, Wu CX, Zhang SF, Kong XB, Decock C, Lu Q, Zhang Z (2019) Differential patterns of ophiostomatoid fungal communities associated with three sympatric *Tomicus* species infesting pines in south-western China, with a description of four new species. MycoKeys 50: 93-133

- Hulcr J, Kolarik M, Kirkendal LR (2007) A new record of fungus-beetle symbiosis in Scolytodes bark beetles (Scolytinae, Curculionidae: Coleoptera). Symbiosis 43: 151-159
- Jacobs K, Bergdahl DR, Wingfield MJ, Halik S, Seifert KA, Bright DE, Wingfield BD (2004) *Leptographium wingfieldii* introduced into North America and found associated with exotic *Tomicus piniperda* and native bark beetles. *Mycol Res* 108:411–418
- Jacobs K, Kirisits T, Wingfield MJ (2003) Taxonomic re-evaluation of three related species of *Graphium*, based on morphology, ecology and phylogeny. Mycologia 95: 714-727
- Jankowiak R, Strzałka B, Bilański P, Resnerová K, Linnakoski R, Matwiejczuk S, Misztela M, Rossa R (2017) Diversity of Ophiostomatales species associated with conifer-infesting beetles in the Western Carpathians. Eur J Forest Res 136: 939-956
- Jankowiak R, Strzałka B, Bilański P, Kacprzyk M, Wieczorek P, Linnakoski R (2019). Ophiostomatoid fungi associated with hardwood-infesting bark and ambrosia beetles in Poland: Taxonomic diversity and vector specificity. Fungal Ecology 39: 152-167
- Juzwik J, Harrington TC, MacDonald WL, Appel DN (2008) The origin of *Ceratocystis* fagacearum, the oak wilt fungus. Annu Rev Phytopathol 46:13–26
- Kamgan Nkuekam G, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Roux J (2012) A diverse assemblage of *Ophiostoma* species, including two new taxa on eucalypt trees in South Africa. Mycol Prog 11:515–533
- Kamgan Nkuekam G, Jacobs K, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Roux J (2008) Ceratocystis and Ophiostoma species including three new taxa, associated with wounds on native South African trees. Fungal Divers 29:37–59
- Kamgan Nkuekam G, Wingfield MJ, Roux J (2013) *Ceratocystis* species, including two new taxa, from *Eucalyptus* trees in South Africa. Australas Plant Pathol 42:283–311
- Katoh K, Toh H (2008) Recent developments in the MAFFT multiple sequence alignment program. Brief Bioinform 9:286–298
- Kerley GIH, Pressey RL, Cowling RM, Boshohof AF, SimsCastley R (2003) Options for the conservation of large and medium-sized mammals in the Cape Floristic Region. Biol Conserv 112:169–190

- Kim JJ, Allen EA, Humble LM, Breuli C (2005) Ophiostomatoid and basidiomycetous fungi associated with green, red and grey lodgepole pines after mountain pine beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*) infestation. Can J Forest Res 35:274–284
- Kim S, Harrington TC, Lee JC, Seybold SJ (2011) *Leptographium tereforme* sp. nov. and other Ophiostomatales isolated from the root-feeding bark beetle *Hylurgus ligniperda* in California. Mycologia 103: 152-163
- Kubono T, Ito S (2002) Raffaelea quercivora sp. nov. associated with mass mortality of Japanese oak, and the ambrosia beetle (*Platypus quercivorus*). Mycoscience 43:255–260
- Kumar D, Sigler L, Gibas CF, Mohan S, Schuh A, Medeiros BC, Peckham K, Humar A (2007) *Graphium basitruncatum* fungemia in a patient with acute leukemia. J. Clin. Microbiol. 45: 1644-1647
- Lackner M, de Hoog GS (2011) Parascedosporium and its relatives: phylogeny and ecological trends. IMA Fungus 2:39-48
- Linnakoski R, de Beer ZW, Ahtiainen J, Sidorov E, Niemela P, Pappinen A, Wingfield M.J (2010) *Ophiostoma* spp. associated with pine- and spruce-infesting bark beetles in Finland and Russia. Persoonia 25: 72-93
- Lu M, Zhou XD, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Sun J-H (2009) Ophiostomatoid fungi associated with the invasive pine-infesting bark beetle, *Dendroctonus valens*, in China. Fungal Divers 38: 133-145
- Lubke RA, Mckenzie B (1996) Afromontane Forest. In: Low AB, Rebelo GA (eds)

 Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. Department of

 Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Pretoria, p 12
- Lynch SC, Twizeyimana M, Mayorquin JS, Wang DH, Na F, Kayim M, Kasson MT, Thu PQ, Bateman C, Rugman-Jones P, Hulcr J, Stouthamer R, Eskalen A (2016) Identification, pathogenicity and abundance of *Paracremonium pembeum* sp. nov. and *Graphium euwallaceae* sp. nov.—two newly discovered mycangial associates of the polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallacea* sp.) in California. Mycologia 108:313–329
- Madrid H, Gene J, Cano J, Silvera C, Guarro J (2010) *Sporothrix brunneoviolacea* and *Sporothrix dimorphospora*, two new members of the *Ophiostoma stenoceras-Sporothrix schenckii* complex. Mycologia 102: 1193-1203
- Marimon R, Gene J, Cano J, Guarro J (2008) *Sporothrix Iuriei*: a rare fungus from clinical origin. Med. Mycol. 46: 621-625
- Marimon R, Gene J, Cano J, Trilles L, Dos Santos Lazera M, Guarro J (2006)

 Molecular phylogeny of *Sporothrix schenckii*. J Clin Microbiol 44: 3251-3256

- Massoumi Alamouti S, Kim JJ, Humble LM, Uzunovic A, Breuil C (2007)

 Ophiostomatoid fungi associated with the northern spruce engraver, *Ips*perturbatus, in western Canada. A van Leeuw J Mycrob 91: 19-34
- Mathiesen-Käärik A (1953) Eine Übersicht über die gewöhnlichsten mit Borkenkäfern assoziierten Bläuepilze in Schweden und einige für Schweden neue Bläuepilze. *Meddelanden fran Statens Skogforskningsinstitut* 43:1–74
- Matsushima T (1971) Microfungi of the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

 Matsushima, Kobe.
- Miller MA, Pfeiffer W, Schwartz T (2010) Creating the CIPRES Science Gateway for inference of large phylogenetic trees. Proceedings of the Gateway Computing Environments Workshop (GCE), New Orleans, LA, pp 1–8
- Mouton M, Wingfield MJ, van Wyk PS, van Wyk WJ (1994) *Graphium pseudormiticum* sp. nov.: a new hyphomycete with unusual conidiogenesis. Mycol Res 98:1272–1276
- Mucina L, Rutherford M (2006) The vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. Streletzia 19, South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria
- Musvuugwa T (2014) Biodiversity and ecology of ophiostomatoid fungi associated with trees in the Cape Floristic Region of South Africa. Dissertation, Stellenbosch University
- Musvuugwa T, de Beer ZW, Duong TA, Dreyer LL, Oberlander KC, Roets F (2015)

 New species of Ophiostomatales from Scolytinae and Platypodinae beetles in
 the Cape Floristic Region, including the discovery of the sexual state of
 Raffaelea. A van Leeuw J Microb 108:933–950
- Musvuugwa T, de Beer ZW, Duong TA, Dreyer LL, Oberlander,KC, Roets F (2016a)
 Wounds on *Rapanea melanophloeos* provide habitat for a large diversity of
 Ophiostomatales including four new species. A van Leeuw J Mycrob 109:877–
 894
- Musvuugwa T, Dreyer LL, Roets F (2016b) Future danger posed by fungi in the Ophiostomatales when encountering new hosts. Fungal Ecol 22:83–89
- Myers N, Mittelmeier RA, Mittelmeier CG, da Fonseca GAB, Kent J (2000) Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. Nature 403:853–858
- Na F., Carrillo J, Mayorquin J, Ndinga Muniania C, Stajich J, Stouthamer R, Huang Y, Lin Y, Yu Chen C, Eskalen A (2018). Two Novel Fungal Symbionts *Fusarium*

- *kuroshium* sp. nov. and *Graphium kuroshium* sp. nov. of Kuroshio Shot Hole Borer (*Euwallacea* sp. nr. *fornicatus*) Cause Fusarium Dieback on Woody Host Species in California. Plant Disease 102:1154-1164
- Ohtaka N, Masuya H, Yamaoka Y, Kaneko S (2006) Two new *Ophiostoma* species lacking conidial states isolated from bark beetles and bark beetle-infested *Abies* species in Japan. Can J Bot 84: 282-293
- Okada G, Jacobs K, Kirisits T, Louis-Seize GW, Seifert KA, Sugita T, Takematsu A, Wingfield MJ (2000) Epitypification of *Graphium penicillioides* Corda, with comments on the phylogeny and taxonomy of *Graphium*-like synnematous fungi. Stud Mycol 45:169–188
- Oliveira LSS, Harrington TC, Ferreira MA, Damacena MB, Al-Sadi AM, Al-Mahmooli IHS, Alfenas AC (2015) Species or genotypes? Reassessment of four recently described species of the *Ceratocystis* Wilt Pathogen, *Ceratocystis fimbriata*, on *Mangifera indica*. Phytopathology 105:1229–1244
- Osorio JA, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Roux J (2016) Ophiostomatoid fungi associated with mangroves in South Africa, including *Ophiostoma palustre* sp. nov. A van Leeuw J Mycrob 109:1555–1571
- Paciura D, Zhou XD, de Beer ZW, Jacobs K, Ye H, Wingfield MJ (2010) Characterisation of synnematous bark beetle-associated fungi from China, including *Graphium carbonarium* sp. nov. Fungal Divers 40:75–88
- Pipe ND, Brasier CM, Buck KW (2000) Evolutionary relationships of the Dutch elm disease fungus *Ophiostoma novo-ulmi* to other *Ophiostoma* species investigated by restriction fragment length polymorphism analysis of the rDNA region. J Phytopathol 148:533–539
- Rayner RW (1970) A mycological colour chart / prepared R.W. Rayner. Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Surry, UK.
- Reid J, Hausner G (2015): A new *Graphilbum* species from western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) in Canada. Mycotaxon 130:399–419
- Ronquist F, Teslenko M, van der Mark P, Ayres DL, Darling A, Höhna S, Larget B, et al. (2012) MrBayes 3.2: Efficient Bayesian Phylogenetic Inference and Model Choice Across a Large Model Space. Syst Biol 61:539–542

- Roets F, de Beer ZW, Dreyer LL, Zipfel R, Crous PW, Wingfield MJ (2006) Multi-gene phylogeny for *Ophiostoma* spp. reveals two new species from *Protea* infructescences. Stud Mycol 55: 199-212
- Roets F, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Crous PW, Dreyer LL (2008) *Ophiostoma* gemellus and *Sporothrix variecibatus* from mites infesting *Protea* infructescences in South Africa. Mycologia 100: 496-510
- Roets F, Wingfield MJ, Crous PW, Dreyer LL (2009) Fungal radiation in the Cape Floristic Region: an analysis based on *Gondwanamyces* and *Ophiostoma*. Mol Phylogenet Evol 51: 111-119
- Romon P, Zhou X, Iturrondobeitia JC, Wingfield MJ, Goldarazena A (2007) Ophiostoma species (Ascomycetes: Ophiostomatales) associated with bark beetles (Coleoptera: Scolytinae) colonizing *Pinus radiata* in northern Spain. Can J Microbiol 53: 756-767
- Roux J, Wingfield MJ (2013) *Ceratocystis* species on the African continent, with particular reference to *C. albifundus*, and African species in the *C. fimbriata sensu lato* species complex. In: Seifert KA, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (eds) Ophiostomatoid fungi: expanding frontiers, CBS Biodiversity Series 12, Netherlands, pp 131–138
- Schroeder S, Kim SH, Cheung WT, Sterflinger K, Breuil C (2001) Phylogenetic relationship of *Ophiostoma piliferum* to other sapstain fungi based on the nuclear rRNA gene. FEMS Microbiol Lett 195: 163-167
- Stamatakis A (2014) RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and postanalysis of large phylogenies. Bioinformatics 30:1312–1313
- Stattersfield AJ, Crosby MJ, Long AJ, Wedge DC (1998) Endemic Bird Areas of the World. BirdLife Conservation Series 7. BirdLife International, Cambridge
- Thwaites JM, Farrell RL, Duncan SM, Reay SD, Blanchette RA, Hadar E, Hadar Y, Harrington TC, McNew D (2005) Survey of potential sapstain fungi on *Pinus radiata* in New Zealand. NZ J Bot 43:653–663
- Tsopelas P, Santini A, Wingfield MJ, de Beer ZW (2017) Canker stain: A lethal disease destroying iconic plane trees. Plant Dis 101:645–658
- Turpie JK, Heydenrych BJ, Lamberth SJ (2003) Economic value of terrestrial and marine biodiversity in the Cape Floristic Region: implications for defining effective and socially optimal conservation strategies. Biol Conserv 112:233–251

- Van der Linde JA, Six DL, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ, Roux J (2016) Novel ophiostomatalean fungi from galleries of *Cyrtogenius africus* (Scolytinae) infesting dying *Euphorbia ingens*. A van Leeuw J Microb 109:589–601
- Van Wyk B, Van Wyk P (1997) Field Guide to Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers, Cape Town, South Africa.
- Vermeulen WJ, Geldenhuys CJ, Esler KJ (2012) Response of *Ocotea bullata*, *Curtisia dentata* and *Rapanea melanophloeos* to medicinal bark stripping in the southern Cape, South Africa: implications for sustainable use. South Forests 74:183–193
- Vu D, Groenewald M, de Vries M, Gehrmann T, Stielow B, Eberhardt U, Al-Hatmi A, Groenewald JZ, Cardinali G, Houbraken J, Boekhout T, Crous PW, Robert V, Verkley GJM (2019) Large-scale generation and analysis of filamentous fungal DNA barcodes boosts coverage for kingdom fungi and reveals thresholds for fungal species and higher taxon delimitation. Stud Mycol 92: 135-154
- White TJ, Bruns T, Lee S, Taylor J (1990) Amplification and direct sequencing of fungal ribosomal RNA genes for phylogenetics. In: Innis MA, Gelfand DH, Sninsky JJ, White TJ (eds), PCR Protocols: A Sequencing Guide to Methods and Applications, Academic Press, San Diego, pp 315–322
- Wingfield MJ, Seifert KA, Webber JF (1993) *Ceratocystis* and *Ophiostoma*: Taxonomy, Ecology and Pathogenicity. American Phytopathological Society Press, St. Paul Minnestota, USA
- Zhou XD, de Beer ZW, Wingfield MJ (2006) DNA sequence comparisons of *Ophiostoma* spp., including *Ophiostoma aurorae* sp. nov., associated with pine bark beetles in South Africa. Stud Mycol 55:269–277