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Nyssopsoraceae, a new family of *Pucciniales* to accommodate Nyssopsora spp.

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Abstract

A new species of rust fungi *Nyssopsora toonae* discovered on living leaves of *Toona sinensis* (\equiv *Cedrela sinensis*) from Uttarakhand, India, is described and illustrated. *N. cedrelae* is also reported on the same host plant, but differs from *N. toonae* which has a wide range of cells (1–4) and diverse teliospores shapes. Such features are not reported in any other species of the *Nyssopsora*. In a phylogenetic analyses based on partial 28S large subunit (LSU), 18S smaller subunit (SSU), cytochrome c-oxidase subunit 3 (CO3) and complete internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequence data, all the *Nyssopsora* spp. along with *N. toonae* clustered together and form a separate and independent monophyletic lineage sister to *Pucciniaceae* in *Pucciniales*. The new family *Nyssopsoraceae* is introduced to accommodate this lineage based on the phylogenetic evidence and morphological differences from other known families. *Nyssopsoraceae* is characterised by its teliospores borne singly on a pedicel, with simple or branched projections all over the surface, composed of 1–4 cells (mostly 3-celled), and diverse shape. The teliospores spherical to subspherical (1-celled), dumbbell (2-celled), linearly arranged to triquetrous (3-celled), or T-shaped to tetrahedron (4-celled). A comparison of the morphological features, host plants and geographical distribution of all validly accepted species of *Nyssopsora* is provided.

Keywords – Phylogeny – Plant pathogenic – Rust fungi – Taxonomic novelty

Introduction

The rust fungi (*Pucciniales*) are obligate phyto-pathogens and represent one of the largest orders in Basidiomycota. They are a monophyletic group with more than 7000 species (Kirk et al. 2008) distributed globally. Diseases caused by rust fungi have drastically impacted human agriculture and history through time. These fungi have a broader host range from pteridophytes (ferns) to higher plants including gymnosperms and angiosperms, although individual species usually have a restricted host range. Rust fungi can have a microcyclic and autoecious life cycle to a macrocyclic life cycle with up to five spore states. Heteroecious species requires two unrelated hosts, although the life cycle can be modified and reduced (Cummins & Hiratsuka 2003). From India, 640 species of rust fungi have been recorded belonging to 69 genera and 16 families (Gautam et al. 2021).

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Initially, rust fungi were classified into families based on characteristics of basidia and teliospores (Cunningham 1931). Later, teliospores were the most important spore state to distinguish genera and families in the classical taxonomy of *Pucciniales* (Cummins & Hiratsuka 2003, Maier et al. 2003, Aime 2006, van der Merwe et al. 2007, Beenken & Wood 2015). Arthur (1906) established the genus *Nyssopsora* with *N. Echinata* (Lév.) Arthur as the type species. *Nyssopsora* is characterized by 3-celled teliospores with a basal pedicellate cell surmounted by two further cells and bearing conspicuous projections (spines) on its surface. Both Lütjeharms (1937) and Lohsomboon et al. (1990) have monographed the genus *Nyssopsora*. *Nyssopsora* was originally included in *Triphragmium* Link (1825). The main characteristics of *Triphragmium* were subglobose, 3-celled, pedicellate teliospores divided by transverse and longitudinal septa and with subepidermal telia. Both *Nyssopsora* and *Triphragmium* were originally assigned to *Sphaerophragmiaceae* Cummins & Y. Hirats. because of their three celled teliopsores with triangular arrangement (Cummins & Hiratsuka 1983).

Cummins & Hiratsuka (1983) established Sphaerophragmiaceae, covering the genera Cumminsina Petr., Hapalophragmium Syd. & P. Syd. (= Hapalophragmiopsis Thirum., = Triactella Syd.), Hennenia Buriticá, Nyssopsora Arthur (= Oplophora Syd.), Sphaerophragmium Magnus, Triphragmiopsis Naumov (= Nyssopsorella Syd.) and Triphragmium Link. These genera were mainly based on pedicellate teliospores with three or more spherically arranged cells. The connections between Nyssopsora and Sphaerophragmium were noted by Lohsomboon et al. (1994). Cummins & Hiratsuka (2003) merged the Sphaerophragmiaceae into Raveneliaceae Leppik. McTaggart et al. (2016) showed that the type species of Sphaerophragmium, S. acacieae (Cook) Magnus, was separated from Raveneliaceae. Therefore, Sphaerophragmiaceae was re-erected by McTaggart et al. (2016). Sphaerophragmiaceae did not contain any genera except Sphaerophragmiaceae consists of Austropuccinia Beenken, Dasyspora Berk. & M.A. Curtis, Puccorchidium Beenken, Sphenorchidium Beenken and Sphaerophragmium (Beenken 2017, Aime & McTaggart 2020). The current status of Nyssopsora is not resolved and it remains incertae sedis within Uredinineae, recovered as sister to Sphaerophragmiaceae (Aime & McTaggart 2020).

Based on multi-gene sequence analysis, a stable and resolved higher-rank classification for the rust fungi (*Pucciniales*) was given by Aime & McTaggart (2020) that comprising 7 suborders and 18 families. Aime & McTaggart (2020) discussed the evolutionary trends that led to diversification and current status within *Pucciniales*, but some families/genera *Pucciniastrum* and *Pucciniastraceae*; *Raveneliaceae*; and *Allodus*, *Neopuccinia*, and *Nyssopsora*, could not be confidently resolved.

In December 2018, a survey was conducted to explore the diversity of phytopathogenic fungi in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, India. During this survey, an interesting rare rust fungus was discovered on living leaves of *Toona sinensis* (Juss.) M. Roem. that caused blackish brown pustules as rusty masses restricted to the lower surface of leaves. This fungus was identified as a new species of *Nyssopsora* due to the presence of 1–4-celled (mostly 3-celled) pedicellate teliospores bearing conspicuous projections on its surface. There are 12 validly accepted species of *Nyssopsora* (www.indexfungorum.org and www.mycobank.org; accessed 15 September, 2023). In light of the above, the present study focused on the phylogenetic analyses using more species and genera including *Nyssopsora* and *Triphragmium*, to find out exact placement of all the *Nyssopsora* spp. under *Pucciniales*. The present communication provides a comparative account of major morphological features, spore states, hosts and geographical distribution of the validly accepted species of *Nyssopsora* (Tables 1, 2).

Materials & Methods

Isolates and morphology

During a survey an interesting rare foliicolous rust was encountered on *Toona sinensis* from Uttarakhand, India, in December 2018. The infected leaves were collected in sterile polybag in

between blotting papers and brought to the laboratory along with collection details. Close-up photographs of infection spots for different developmental stages of spores were captured using camera (CatCam300EF) attached to a Magnus Stereo Zoom Trinocular Olympus Microscope (MSZ-TR). Slides were prepared by hand sectioning and scraping from infection spots of freshly collected leaves and mounted in both lactophenol cotton-blue mixture and 50% glycerine. Fungal propagules were photographed using an Olympus compound microscope (CH20i-TR) equipped with Magnus camera (MIPS CMOS). Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was done with a Carl Zeiss EVO 18. Detailed observations of morphological characters were carried out at different magnifications through light microscopy (450× and 1000×) and scanning electron microscopy (up to ~35K×). For SEM micrographs specimens were coated with gold-palladium using a POLARON Sputter coater (180 sec in nitrogen atmosphere of 20 mA, 30 mm distance from the electrode) and examined with SEM. Measurements were made for 25 of each morphological feature of urediniospores and teliospores. Holotype material is deposited in the Ajrekar Mycological Herbarium (AMH), Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune, India and isotype material is retained in the Mycological Herbarium of the Department of Botany of Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P., India (MH-BHU).

DNA extraction

Genomic DNA was extracted from spores scrapped from the heavily infected surface of leaves using a sterile scalpel blade. Harvested spores and mycelium about 150 mg was transferred to a 2 ml polypropylene centrifuge tube kept in liquid nitrogen for 2 min and then grinded to make fine powder using a mortar and pestle. From powdered form, DNA was isolated using Himedia DNA isolation Kit (HiPurATM Fungal DNA Purification Kit) following the manufacturers' protocols. Isolated DNA fragments were visualised by electrophoresis in 1% agarose gel (w/v) stained with ethidium bromide under Gel Documentation system (Bio-Rad Universal Hood II) and DNA concentration was quantified by using Nano Drop microvolume spectrophotometer (ThermoScientificTMNanoDropTM One/One^C Microvolume UV-Vis Spectrophotometer with Wi-Fi).

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and sequencing

The internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region, large subunit (LSU) and smaller subunit (SSU) of nrDNA were amplified using Rust2inv (5'-GATGAAGAACACAGTGAAA-3')/ITS4rust (5'-CAGATTACAAATTTGGGCT-3') (Aime 2006, Beenken et al. 2012), LROR ACCCGCTGAACTTAAGC-3')/LR6 (5'-CGCCAGTTCTGCTTACC-3') (Vilgalys & Hester 1990) and NS1 (5'-GTAGTCATATGCTTG TCTC-3')/NS4 (5'-CTTCCGTCAATTCCTTTAAG-3') (White et al. 1990) primer pairs, respectively. PCRs were carried out in 50 µL reaction mixture containing 5 µL Taq buffer containing MgCl₂, 1 µL dNTPs (10 mM), 1 µL each forward and reverse primer (10 μmol/μL), 5 μL of DNA template (~35 ng/μL), 0.3 μL of Tag DNA polymerase (5 Unit/μL) and 36.7 μL of milli-Q water. The PCRs were carried out in Thermal Cycler (Bio-Rad T100TM). Conditions for the PCRs amplification consisted of an initial denaturation at 95 °C for 5 min; followed by 35 cycles of denaturation at 94 °C for 1 min; annealing at 53 °C for ITS, 65 °C for LSU and 55 °C for SSU for 1 min, extension at 72 °C for 1 min. The final extension step was done at 72 °C for 8 min. The amplified amplicons were run in 1.2% agarose gel and visualised in the Gel Documentation system (Bio-Rad Universal Hood II) for the product size and purity. PCR products were cleaned and sequenced with the amplification primers at AgriGenome Labs Private Ltd., Kerala by the Sanger sequencing method using BigDye® Terminator v3.1 Cycle sequencing Kit and ABI 3100 DNA analyzer.

Phylogenetic analysis

The obtained ITS, LSU and SSU sequences from type materials were assembled and edited with Chromas v.2.6.6. The manually edited sequences were submitted to NCBI GenBank (Table 1) and were subjected to a megablast search of the NCBI GenBank nucleotide database. The most

homologous sequences of related strains were retrieved. Reference sequences were also selected based on sequence availability from relevant published literature (Table 1). Sequence alignmentswere generated using MAFFT v.6.864b (Katoh & Toh 2010) whereas BioEdit v.7.0.9 (Hall 2007) and MEGA-X v.10.1.8 (Kumar et al. 2018) were used to manually check, improve and concatenate the aligned sequences. Sequence alignments were deposited as electronic supplementary materials in TreeBASE, study number 29662.

The phylogenetic methods used in this study included a Bayesian analysis (BI) performed with MrBayes v.3.2.7 (Ronquist et al. 2012) and maximum likelihood (ML) analysis performed with RAxML v.8.2.10 (Stamatakis 2014). The phylogenetic analyses were individually applied to the two datasets: dataset 1 consisted of concatenated alignments of LSU, SSU and CO3 sequences whereas datasets 2 consisted of concatenated alignments of LSU, SSU, CO3 and ITS sequences from 18 families currently belonging to *Pucciniales*. The sequences of taxa containing weak aligned portions, incomplete data, missing sequence data and gaps were removed. The overview trees were rooted with *Eocronartium muscicola*, from the sister order to *Pucciniales* (Aime et al. 2006).

Bayesian inference was implemented with the GTR+I+G model. Bayesian inference was calculated using a Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm with Bayesian posterior probabilities (Rannala & Yang 1996). The analysis was performed up to 2300000 generations till the standard deviation of split frequency came down below 0.01. The first 25% of generated trees representing the burn-in phase were discarded, and the remaining trees were used to calculate posterior probabilities of the majority rule consensus tree. ML analysis was also performed using a GTR model of site substitution, including GAMMA+P-Invar model of rate heterogeneity and a proportion of invariant sites (Stamatakis 2014). The ML support values were evaluated with a bootstrapping method of 1000 replicates. These analyses involved 102 nucleotide sequences.

Presented trees were obtained with the ML approach. Tree reconstruction, visualization and editing were done using FigTree v.1.4.4 and TreeGraph_2.15.0. The multigene phylograms are shown in Figs 9, 10.

Results

The data for the trees conducted in different analyses are shown in Table 1. Phylogenetic trees obtained from combined genes analyses are supplied below.

Dataset 1 (LSU, SSU and CO3 phylogeny)

This dataset consisted of a concatenated alignment of three loci (LSU, SSU and CO3). The final alignment contained a total of 1987 characters divided in to three partitions containing 1006 (LSU), 437 (SSU) and 544 (CO3) characters, respectively including the alignment gaps. Phylogenetic trees generated from Bayesian analyses (BI) and maximum likelihood (ML) produced trees with overall similar topology. A best scoring RAxML tree is presented in Fig. 9, with the likelihood value of -23481.773327.

In this analysis, the exact placement of *Nyssopsora* spp. that were earlier not resolved, clustered together and recovered as sister to *Pucciniaceae* and delineate a separate independent lineage with strong bootstrap support within *Pucciniales*. The ML tree (Fig. 9) was mostly congruent with prior studies of more limited taxon and locus sampling (Aime 2006, Beenken & Wood 2015, McTaggart et al. 2016, Beenken 2017, Aime et al. 2017, 2018, Souza et al. 2018).

Dataset 2 (LSU, SSU, CO3 and ITS phylogeny)

This dataset consisted of a concatenated alignment of four loci (LSU, SSU, CO3 and ITS). The final alignment of this dataset contained a total of 2662 characters divided into four partitions containing 1006 (LSU), 437 (SSU), 544 (CO3) and 675 (ITS) characters, respectively including the alignment gaps. Phylogenetic trees generated from Bayesian analyses and maximum likelihood (ML) produced trees with an overall similar topology. A best scoring RAxML tree is presented (Fig. 10), with the likelihood value of -31766.255887.

Table 1 Taxa included in molecular phylogenetic analyses and their GenBank accession numbers. The sequences in bold were generated in this study.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBank	accession no.	Host	Source	
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS		
Araucariomycetaceae							
Araucaromyces	BRIP 68996	MW049245	MW049292	MW036497	NA	Agathis robusta	Aime & McTaggart
fragiformis							(2020)
Coleosporiaceae							
Chrysomyxa	CUW CFB	AF522163	AY657009	NA	NA	NA	Aime & McTaggart
arctostaphyli	22246						(2020)
Chrysomyxa reticulata	PDD 92535	KX985767	NA	NA	KX985767	Rhododendron sp.	Padamsee & McKenzie
						sect. Vireya	(2017)
Chrysomyxa rhododendri	PDD 102088	KJ698630	KJ746824	NA	NA	Rhododendron sp.	Padamsee & McKenzie
							(2014)
Coleosporium inulae	BPI 871127	MG907223	NA	NA	NA	Inula fragilis	Aime et al. (2018)
Coleosporium melampyri	PUR N16579	MG907224	NA	NA	NA	Rhinanthus	Aime et al. (2018)
						aristatus	
Coleosporium senecionis	PDD 98309	KJ716348	KJ746818	NA	KJ716348	Senecio sp.	Padamsee & McKenzie
							(2014), Aime &
							McTaggart (2020)
Coleosporium	PUR N16713	MG907228	NA	NA	MG907228	Sonchus sp.	Aime et al. (2018)
tussilaginis		******	27.4	27.1	27.1	D. 1	
Thekopsora areolata	NA	KJ546894	NA	NA	NA	Picea engelmannii	Aime & McTaggart
							(2020)
Crossopsoraceae	DDID 50110) (III) 47007) (III) (FO) (O) (III) (FO) (27.4	F	A
Crossopsora fici	BRIP 58118	MH047207	MH047212	MH047204	NA	Ficus virens var.	Aime & McTaggart
	DDI 077077	N.C.7.44550	NTA	NT A	NTA	sublanceolata	(2020)
Crossopsora ziziphi	BPI 877877	MG744558	NA	NA	NA	Ziziphus	Souza et al. (2018)
7Z -11	DLID E10200	MW147026	NTA	NTA	NTA	mucronata	A: 0 M T
Kweilingia bambusae	PUR F18200	MW147026	NA	NA	NA	Bambusa sp.	Aime & McTaggart
Gymnosporangiaceae							(2020)
Gymnosporangiaceae Gymnosporangium	BRIP 59471	MW049261	MW049296	MW036499	NA	Crataggus en	Aime & McTaggart
Gymnosporangium clavariiforme	DKIF 374/1	1V1 VV U472U1	1V1 VV U47270	1V1 VV U3U433	INA	Crataegus sp.	(2020)
navarnjorme Gymnosporangium gracile	20140326-1-GR-	KM486544	NA	NA	KM486542	Juniperus oxycedrus	Fernandez & Alvarado
Эутпогрогандит дласие	P25	1X1V1+0UJ+4	INA	INA	IXIVI+0UJ+2	Jumperus oxycearus	(2016)
Melampsoraceae	1 43						(2010)
Melampsora abietis-	HMAS 247978	MK064529	NA	NA	MK028579	Populus wilsonii	Zheng et al. (2019)
vietampsora abtetis- populi	111VIAS 241710	WIIXUU+J2J	INA	11/1	WIKU20317	1 opuius wiisoitti	Zaiong et al. (2019)
орин							

Table 1 Continued.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBan	k accession no.	Host	Source	
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS		
Melampsora epitea	DAOM 240968	HQ317514	NA	NA	HQ317514	Salix candida	Liu et al. (2015)
Melampsora euphorbiae	BPI 863501	DQ437504	DQ789986	MW036501	NA	Euphorbia macroclada	Aime (2006), Matheny et al. (2006), Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Melampsora hypericorum	PDD 97325	KJ716353	KJ746828	NA	KJ716353	Hypericum androsaemum	Padamsee & McKenzie (2014)
Melampsora laricis- populina	HMAS 247976	MK064525	NA	NA	MK028584	Populus simonii	Zhenget al. (2019)
Melampsora sp. Milesinaceae	SAL103	EF192205	NA	NA	NA	Salix amygdaloides	Bennett et al. (2011)
Milesia polypodii	KR-M-0043190	MK302190	NA	NA	MH908415	Polypodium vulgare	Bubner et al. (2019)
Milesina kriegeriana	KR-M-0048480	MK302207	NA	NA	MH908452	Dryopteris dilatata	Bubner et al. (2019)
Milesina philippinensis	BRIP 58421	KM249868	NA	NA	NA	Nephrolepis sp.	McTaggart et al. (2014)
Milesina thailandica	IBAR 11436	LC498526	NA	NA	LC498526	Lygodium flexuosum	Onoet al. (2020)
Milesina vogesiaca	PURN659a	MG907235	NA	NA	NA	Polystichum aculeatum	Aime et al. (2018)
Naohidemyces vaccinii	BPI 871754	DQ354563	DQ354562	NA	NA	Vaccinium ovatum	Aime (2006)
Uredinopsis osmundae	BPI 872258	MG907245	NA	NA	NA	Osmunda claytoniana	Aime et al. (2018)
Nyssopsoraceae							
Nyssopsora echinata	KR-0012164 (U1022), ESS244	MW049272	U77061	NA	NA	Meum athamanticum	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Nyssopsora koelreuteriae	BBSW-1	NA	NA	NA	KT750965	Koelreuteria bipinnata	Yang et al. (2016)
Nyssopsora thwaitesii	AMH 9528	KF550283	NA	NA	KF550283	Schefflera wallichiana	Baiswar et al. (2014)
Nyssopsora toonae Ochropsoraceae	AMH 10124	MT712660	ON641038	NA	MT712662	Toona sinensis	Present study
Aplopsora nyssae	BPI 877823	MW049244	NA	NA	NA	Nyssa sylvatica	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Ochropsora ariae	KR-0015027	MW049273	NA	NA	NA	Anemone nemorosa	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Phakopsoraceae							,
Cerotelium fici	UACH107	MF580676	NA	NA	NA	Ficus carica	Solano-Báez et al. (2017)

Table 1 Continued.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBank	Host	Source			
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS			
Masseeëlla capparis	BRIP 56844	JX136798	NA	KT199413	NA	Flueggea virosa	McTaggart et al. (2016)	
Phakopsora myrtacearum	PREM 61155	KP729473	NA	KT199414	KP729468	Eucalyptus grandis	Maier et al. (2016), McTaggart et al. (2016)	
Phakopsora pachyrhizi	BRIP 56941	KP729475	MW049300	MW036503	NA	Neonotonia wightii	Maier et al. (2016), Aime & McTaggart (2020)	
Phragmidiaceae	DDID 50260	VT100207	NT A	IZT100400	NT A	n 1	M.T. 4 1 (2016)	
Gerwasia rubi	BRIP 58369	KT199397	NA DO521422	KT199408	NA NA	Rubus sp.	McTaggart et al. (2016)	
Gymnoconia interstitialis	BPI 747600	JF907677	DQ521422	NA	NA	Rubus allegheniensis	Yun et al. (2011), Aime & McTaggart (2020)	
Gymnoconia peckiana	BPI 879271	GU058010	NA	NA	GU058010	Rubus sp.	Dixon et al. (2010)	
Hamaspora acutissima	BRIP 55606	KT199398	KT199385	KT199409	NA	Rubus moluccanus	McTaggart et al. (2016)	
Kuehneola uredinis	BPI 871104	DQ354551	DQ092919	NA	DQ354551	Rubus argutus	Aime (2006), Aime & McTaggart (2020)	
Phragmidium barnardii	BRIP 56945	KT199402	NA	KT199415	NA	Rubus multibracteatus	McTaggart et al. (2016)	
Phragmidium sanguisorbae	BPI 872232	JF907674	NA	NA	NA	Sanguisorba minor	Yun et al. (2011)	
Phragmidium tormentillae	BPI 843392	DQ354553	DQ354552	MG907265	MG907214	Potentilla canadensis	Aime (2006), Aime et al. (2018)	
Phragmidium violaceum	BPI 879276	GU058015	NA	NA	GU058015	Rubus parviflorus	Dixon et al. 2010	
Trachyspora intrusa	BPI 843828	DQ354550	DQ354549	MW036508	DQ354550	Alchemilla vulgaris	Aime (2006), Aime & McTaggart (2020)	
Triphragmium ulmariae	BPI 881364	JF907676	AY125401	NA	NA	Filipendulaulmaria	Wingfield et al. (2004), Yun et al. 2011	
Pileolariaceae Pileolaria brevipes	PUR N16525, BPI 877989	MG907216	MW049301	MG907267	NA	Toxicodendron sp.	Aime et al. (2018), Aime & McTaggart (2020)	
Pileolaria pistaciae	PURN11945	KY314266	NA	NA	MG860928	Pistacia chinensis	Ishaq et al. (2020)	

Table 1 Continued.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBanl	accession no.	Host	Source	
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS		
Pileolaria toxicodendri	BPI 871761	DQ323924	NA	NA	NA	Toxicodendron sp.	Scholler & Aime 2006, Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Pucciniaceae							
Aecidium kalanchoe	BPI 843633	AY463163	DQ354524	NA	NA	Kalanchoe blossfeldiana	Hernandez et al. (2004), Aime (2006)
Ceratocoma jacksoniae	BRIP 57762	KT199394	KT199382	KT199405	NA	Daviesia sp.	McTaggart et al. (2016)
Cumminsiella mirabilissima	BPI 871101	DQ354531	DQ354530	NA	NA	Mahonia aquifolium	Aime (2006)
Endophylloides portoricensis	BPI 844288	DQ354516	AY125389	NA	DQ354516	Mikania micrantha	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Leptopuccinia malvacearum	BRIP 57522	KU296888	NA	KX999924	NA	Malva parviflora	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Miyagia pseudosphaeria	BPI 842230	DQ354517	AY125411	NA	NA	Sonchus oleraceus	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Puccinia andropogonis	BPI 871763	GU057993	NA	NA	NA	Andropogon sp.	Dixon et al. (2010)
Puccinia coronate	BPI 844300	DQ354526	DQ354525	NA	NA	Rhamnus cathartica	Aime (2006)
Puccinia coronate var. avenae	BRIP 57635	MW147047	NA	MW139657	NA	Avena sativa	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Puccinia graminis	BRIP 60137	KM249852	MW049302	MW036505	NA	Glyceria maxima	Deadman et al. (2011), Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Puccinia hordei	BPI 871109	DQ354527	DQ415278	NA	NA	Unidentified Poaceae	Aime (2006), Aime et al. (2006)
Puccinia platyspora	BPI 091376	KT827311	NA	NA	NA	Sphaeralcea sp.	Demers et al. (2015)
Puccinia porri	BRIP 64600	KY849820	NA	NA	KY849820	Allium porrum	McTaggart et al. (2017)
Puccinia sherardiana	BPI 871783	KT827315	NA	NA	NA	Sphaeralcea sp.	Demers et al. (2015)
Puccinia windsoriae	BPI 871790	GU057995	NA	NA	NA	Tridens sp.	Dixon et al. (2010)
Pucciniosira solani	RS25	EU851140	NA	NA	NA	Solanum nigrum	Zuluaga et al. (2011)
Uromyces plumbarius Pucciniastraceae	NA	KP313731	NA	NA	KP313731	Gaura lindheimeri	Blomquist et al. (2015b)
Hyalopsora aspidiotus	PUR N4641	MW049264	NA	NA	NA	Gymnocarpium dryopteris	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Melampsoridium betulinum	BPI 871107	DQ354561	AY125391	NA	NA	Alnus sp.	Wingfield et al. (2004), Aime (2006)

Table 1 Continued.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBanl	k accession no.	Host	Source	
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS		
Pucciniastrum epilobii	PUR N11088	MW049277	NA	NA	NA	Epilobium angustifolium	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Pucciniastrum minimum	BRIP 57654	MG907242	KT199391	KT199422	NA	Vaccinium corymbosum	McTaggart et al. (2016), Aime et al. (2018)
Raveneliaceae							
Diorchidium woodii	U1475	MW111538	MW111533	NA	NA	Millettia grandis	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Endoraecium auriculiforme	BRIP 56548	KJ862298	NA	KJ862432	KJ862355	Acacia auriculiformis	McTaggart et al. (2015)
Endoraecium parvum	BRIP 57524	KJ862316	KJ862409	KJ862445	KJ862369	Acacia leiocalyx	McTaggart et al. (2015)
Kernkampella breyniae	BRIP 56909	KJ862346	KJ862428	KJ862459	NA	Breynia cernua	McTaggart et al. (2015)
Maravalia limoniformis	BRIP 59649	MW049266	NA	MW036500	NA	Austrosteenisia blackii	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Olivea scitula	BPI 871108	DQ354541	DQ354540	NA	NA	Vitex doniana	Aime (2006)
Porotenus biporus	ZT Myc 3414	JF263494	JF263510	NA	NA	Memora flavida	Beenken et al. (2012)
Prospodium tuberculatum	BRIP 57630	KJ396195	KJ396196	MW036504	NA	Lantana camara	Pegg et al. (2014), Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Ravenelia evansii	PREM 61846	MG945993	NA	MN095321	MG945961	Vachellia luederitzii var. retinens	Ebinghaus & Begerow (2018), Ebinghaus et al. (2018, 2020)
Rogerpetersoniaceae							
Rogerpetersonia torreyae	BPI 877825, BPI 877824	MG907207	MG907197	MG907254	NA	Torreya californica	Aime et al. (2018)
Skierkaceae							
Skierka diploglottidis	BRIP 59646	MW049278	MW049304	MW036506	NA	Dictyoneura obtusa	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Skierka robusta	BPI 879954	MW049279	MW049305	NA	NA	Rhoicissus rhomboidea	Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Sphaerophragmiaceae							(===)
Austropuccinia psidii	BRIP 57793	KF318449	KF318457	KT199419	NA	Rhodamnia angustifolia	Pegg et al. (2014), McTaggart et al. (2016)
Dasyspora gregaria	ZTMyc 3397	JF263477	JF263502	JF263518	JF263477	Xylopia cayennensis	Beenken et al. (2012)
Dasyspora segregaria	PMA MP4941	JF263488	JF263507	JF263523	JF263488	Xylopia aromatica	Beenken et al. (2012)

Table 1 Continued.

Taxon	Voucher ID		GenBanl	accession no.	Host	Source	
		28S	18S	CO3	ITS	_	
Puccorchidium polyalthiae	ZT HeRB 251	JF263493	JF263509	JF263525	JF263493	Polyalthia longifolia	Beenken et al. (2012)
Puccorchidium popowiae	ZT Myc 1976	JF263495	JF263511	JF263526	JF263495	Monanthotaxis caffra	Beenken et al. (2012)
Sphaerophragmium acaciae	BRIP 56910	KJ862350	KJ862429	KJ862462	NA	<i>Albizia</i> sp.	McTaggart et al. (2015)
Sphenorchidium deightonii	PC 0096730	KM217350	KM217368	NA	KM217350	Xylopia aethiopica	Beenken & Wood (2015)
Sphenorchidium xylopiae Tranzscheliaceae	NA	KM217355	KM217372	NA	KM217355	Xylopia aethiopica	Beenken & Wood (2015)
Tranzschelia discolor	BRIP 57662	KR994891	KR994969	KR995082	NA	Prunus persica	Doungsa-ard et al. (2018)
Tranzschelia mexicana Uredinineaeincertaesedis	KR-M-0040855	KP308391	NA	NA	KP308391	Prunus salicifolia	Blomquist et al. (2015a)
Allodus podophylli	BPI 842277, PUR N16753	DQ354543	DQ354544	MG907270	DQ354543	Podophyllum peltatum	Aime (2006), Aime et al. (2018)
Zaghouaniaceae Achrotelium ichnocarpi	BRIP 55634	KT199393	KT199381	KT199404	NA	Ichnocarpus	McTaggart et al. (2016)
Blastospora smilacis Hemileia vastatrix	PUR N270 BRIP 61233	DQ354568 KT199399	DQ354567 DQ354565	NA KT199410	NA NA	frutescens Smilax sieboldii Coffea robusta	Aime (2006), Aime (2006),
Mikronegeria fagi	PUR N16373	MW049267	MW049298	NA	NA	Nothofagus oblique	McTaggart et al. (2016) Aime & McTaggart (2020)
Mikronegeria fuchsiae	PDD 101517	KJ716350	KJ746826	NA	KJ716350	Phyllocladus trichomanoides	Padamsee & McKenzie (2014)
Zaghouanianotelaeae	BRIP 58325	KT199396	KT199384	KT199407	NA	Notelaea microcarpa	McTaggart et al. (2016)
Out group							
Eocronartium muscicola	MIN796447, DUKE:DAH(e1)	AF014825	DQ241438	NA	NA	NA	Bruns & Szaro Unpublished, Henk & Vilgalys et al. (2007)

Table 2 Morphological details of *Nyssopsora* species.

Nyssopsora			Telios	ores				Projector	1/spores		Uı	ediniosp	ores
spp.	NC [†]	Size (µm)	Septal Constric- tion	Wall thickness (µm)	GP [†]	Pedicel (μm)	NP [†]	Length (μm)	$\mathbf{T}\mathbf{F}^{\dagger}$	Size (µm)	WT [†] (μm)	SO [†]	GP [†]
asiatica	3	26–41 × 26–42	Slight to moderate	1–3	1–2(3)	Up to 60 × 5–8	13–29	6–15	2->5	_	_	_	_
cedrelae	3	29–44 × 27–44	Slight	1–3	1–3	Up to 105 × 7–12	13–27	3–9	2–3	14–24 × 13–21	1–2.5	E	NS
citriobati	3	28–39 × 28–38	Slight	1–3.5	1–3	Up to 40.5 × 3–5	14–19	2.5–6	2–6	_	_	_	_
clavellosa	3	29–37 × 26–38	Slight to moderate	1.5–3	1–4	Up to 94 × 5–9	10–23	4–11	3–4	_	_	_	_
echinata	3	29–42 × 27–40	Slight	1–3	1–4	Up to 56 × 4–8	14–23	4–18	1–3	_	_	_	_
eocaenica	3	33–38 × 34–37	Moderate	_	_	Up to 6–7	Numerous	_	0	_	_	_	_
formosana	3	27–35 × 25–35	Slight	1–2	1–3	Up to 44 × 3.5–6	11–17	5–14	2->5	15–24 × 13–20	0.5–2	Е	NS
koelreuteriae	3	30–40 × 28–39	Slight	1–2.5	1–3	Up to 50 × 5–7	18–30	2–10	2–4	18–35 × 14–25	1–2	Е	NS
panamensis	3	21–26 × 20–24	Slight	1–2	2	_	8–29	4–20	1–4	19–28 × 16–22	0.5–1	Е	2
thirumalacharii	3	22–36 × 19–30	Slight to moderate	_	>1	Up to 15–30	_	_	-	_	_	_	_
thwaitesii	3	28–48 × 25–44	Strong	1–3	1–3	Up to 85 × 4.5–9	8–17	3–12(– 16)	2–4	_	_	_	_
toonae	1–4	7.5–40 × 9–30	Strong	1.5–5	1–2	Up to 85 × 4–18	40–60	1.5–6	2–8	20–24 × 17–27	1.2–3.8	E	NS
trevesiae	3	24–37 × 25–36	Slight	0.5–2.5	2–3	Deciduous and short	10–23	2–9	1–2	_	_	_	_

[†]NC = Number of cells in each spore, GP = The number of germ pores (usual) in each spore, NP = Number of projections on each spore, TF = Tip furcation, WT = Wall thickness, SO = Surface ornamentation, E = Echinulate, NS = Not seen.

The results of analysis of dataset 2 (Fig. 10), closely supports the dataset 1 (Fig. 9). From both datasets, it is clear that all the *Nyssopsora* spp. separated together as an independent, formerly not known lineage in *Pucciniales*. The differences in morphology are significant enough for retaining *Nyssopsora* distinct from the members of *Pucciniaceae*. Therefore, a new family *Nyssopsoraceae* is established for all the *Nyssopsora* species having 1–4-celled pedicellate teliospores with conspicuous projections (spines) on their surface. The genera *Nyssopsora* and *Triphragmium*, which were originally assigned to *Sphaerophragmiaceae*, are now excluded (Figs. 9, 10) and support the current concepts of Aime & McTaggart (2020).

Taxonomy

Nyssopsoraceae Sanjay & Raghv. Singh, fam.nov.

Index Fungorum number: IF559434; Facesoffungi number: FoF12772

Etymology – named after the genus *Nyssopsora*.

Spermogonia unknown. Aecia, when present, uredinioid, without paraphyses; aeciospores echinulate. Uredinia subepidermal in origin, erumpent; urediniospores borne singly on pedicels, echinulate, germ pores not seen. Telia subepidermal in origin, erumpent; teliospores borne singly on pedicel, composed of 1–4-cells (mostly 3-celled), spherical to subspherical (1-celled), dumbbell (2-celled), linearly arranged to triquetrous (3-celled), T-shaped to tetrahedron (4-celled), walls pigmented, bearing conspicuous projections, entire or branched at the tips, 1–4 germ pores in each cell, basidia external.

Type genus – *Nyssopsora* Arthur (1906).

Type species – *Nyssopsora echinata* (Lév.) Arthur (1906).

Nyssopsoratoonae Sanjay & Raghv. Singh, sp. nov.

Figs 1-8

Index Fungorum number: IF559435; Facesoffungi number: FoF12771

Etymology – species epithet is derived from the name of the host genus.

Diagnosis – Differs from all the *Nyssopsora* spp. due to occurrence of wide range of cells (1–4) and diverse shape in teliospores: spherical to subspherical (1-celled), dumbbell (2-celled), linearly arranged to triquetrous (3-celled), and T-shaped to tetrahedron (4-celled).

Holotype – AMH 10124

Spermogonia and aecidia unknown. Infection spots hypophyllous, blackish to dark blackish brown, velvety, initially marginal, later scattered on lamina, more or less circular to subcircular, later on coalesce to become irregular, necrotic, 1–4 mm diam. Mycelium internal. Colonies hypogenous, subepidermal in origin and erumpent, pulverulent, dark blackish brown when spores are abundant. Uredinia hypophyllous, 1–4 mm diam., formed in early stage of infection and telia at later stage, loosely or densely aggregated, subepidermal in origin, erumpent and exposed early, pulverulent, blackish brown to black. Urediniospore mostly circular to orbicular, oval, $20-24 \times 17-24(-27)$ µm, wall uniformly thick, (1.2–)2–3.5(–3.8) μm, pale yellow to dark brown, surface minutely echinulate, germ pores not seen, pedicilate, pedicels up to $16 \times 6-9 \mu m$. Telia hypophyllous, 1–4 mm diam., subepidermal in origin and early exposed, densely aggregated in irregular groups, pulverulent, blackish brown to black. Teliospores borne singly on pedicels, 1–4-celled, mostly 3celled with a single proximal cell and surmounted by two distal cells, $7.5-40 \times 9-30 \mu m$, diverse shapes [1-celled (spherical to subspherical): $7.5-27 \times 9-25 \mu m$; 2-celled (dumbbell): (20–)30–32(– $35) \times (14-)18-23(-25) \mu m$, 3-celled (linearly arranged): $(30-)32-35(-40) \times (15-)20-22(-24)$ μ m;3-celled (triquetrous): (30–)32–33(–35) × (18–)20–28(–30) μ m; 4-celled (T-shaped): (36–)37– $38(-40) \times (19-)20-26(-28)$ µm and 4-celled (tetrahedron): $(28-)30-33(-35) \times (18-)19-24(-26)$ μm], wall (1.5–)2.5–4(–5) μm thick, strongly constricted at the septa, initially light brown, dark brown to blackish brown at maturity; with approx 40-60 projections on each spore, mostly 2-8furcated at tip, 1.5–6 µm long; often barely visible 1–2 germ pores in each cell, appearing near or at the inner angles; pedicles subhyaline to olivaceous, smooth to striated, persistent, up to 85 µm long, $(4-)6-10(-18) \mu m$ wide.

Material examined – India, Uttarakhand, Chamoli, Govindghat, 30.6185°N, 79.5617 E, on living leaves of *Toona sinensis* (Juss.) M. Roem. (*Meliaceae*), December 2018, coll. Sanjay Yadav, AMH 10124 (holotype), MH-BHU 6 (isotype).

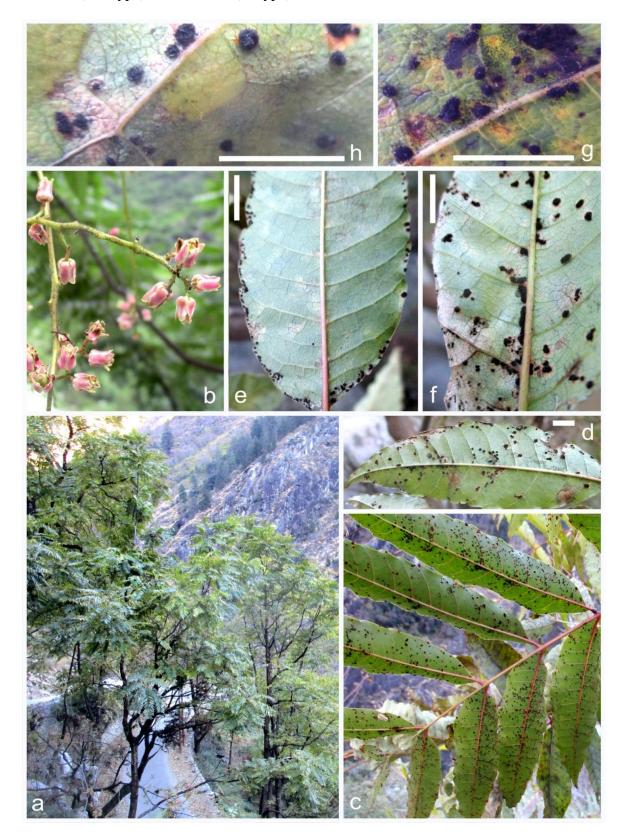


Fig. 1 – Symptoms of *Nyssopsora toonae* on *Toona sinensis* (AMH 10124, holotype). a, b Host Plant in natural habitat. c, d Rust pustules on the lower surface of leaf. e Symptom limited to leaf margin. f Symptom mostly limited to midrib or vein. g, h Close-up of leaf surface showing telia. Scale bars = 10 mm.

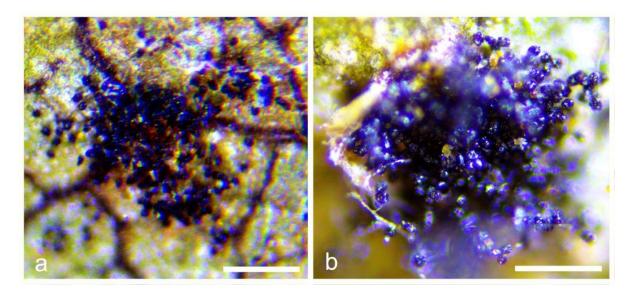


Fig. 2 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a–b Telia on leaflets of *Toonasinensis*. Scale bars: $a=10~\mu m$, $b=20~\mu m$.

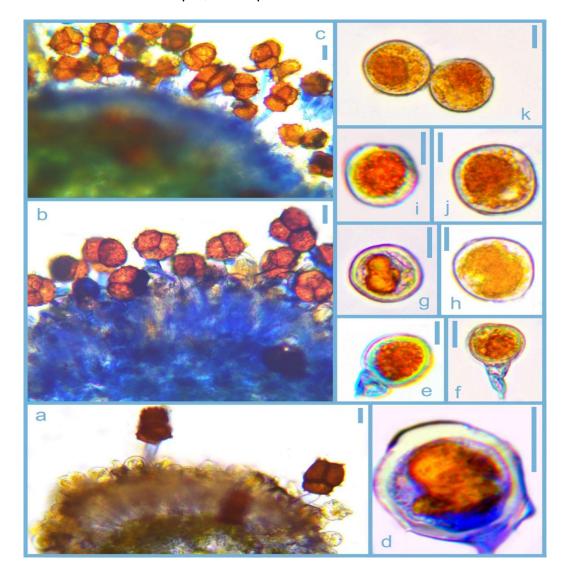


Fig. 3 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a Transverse section of uredinium with two mature teliospores. b, c Transverse section of telium. d–f Stalked Urediniospores. g–k Urediniospores. Scale bars = $10 \, \mu m$.

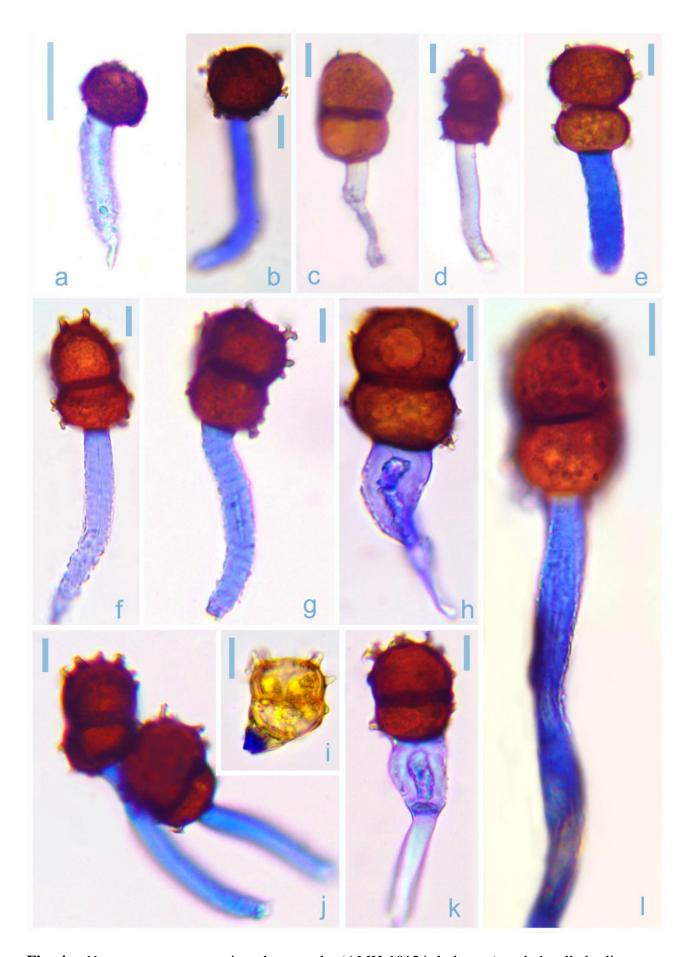


Fig. 4 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a, b 1-celled teliospores. c–l Different forms of 2-celled teliospores. Scale bars = $10 \, \mu m$.

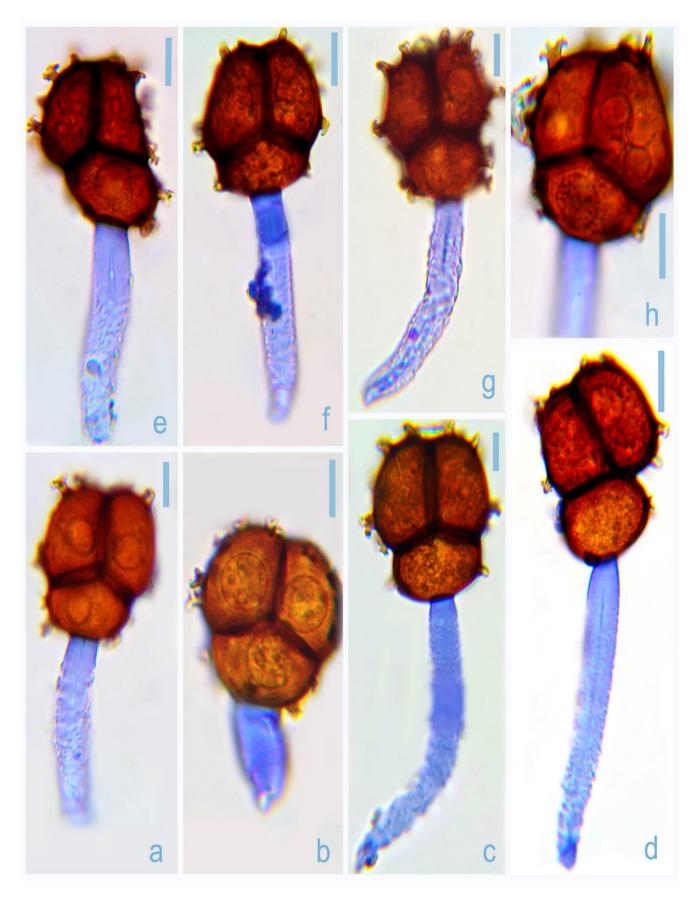


Fig. 5 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a–h Different forms of 3-celled triquetrous teliospores. Scale bars = $10 \, \mu m$.



Fig. 6 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a–f Different forms of 3-celled linearly arranged teliospores. Scale bars = $10 \mu m$.

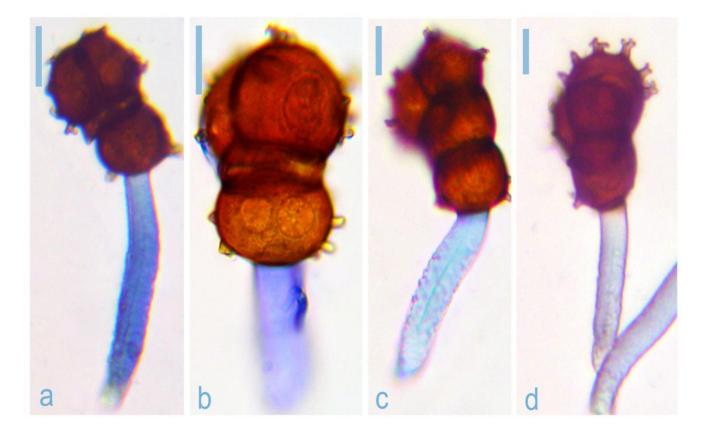


Fig. 7 – *Nyssopsora toonae*, microphotographs (AMH 10124, holotype). a–c Different forms of 4-celled T-shaped teliospores. d 4-celled tetrahedron teliospore. Scale bars = $10 \, \mu m$.

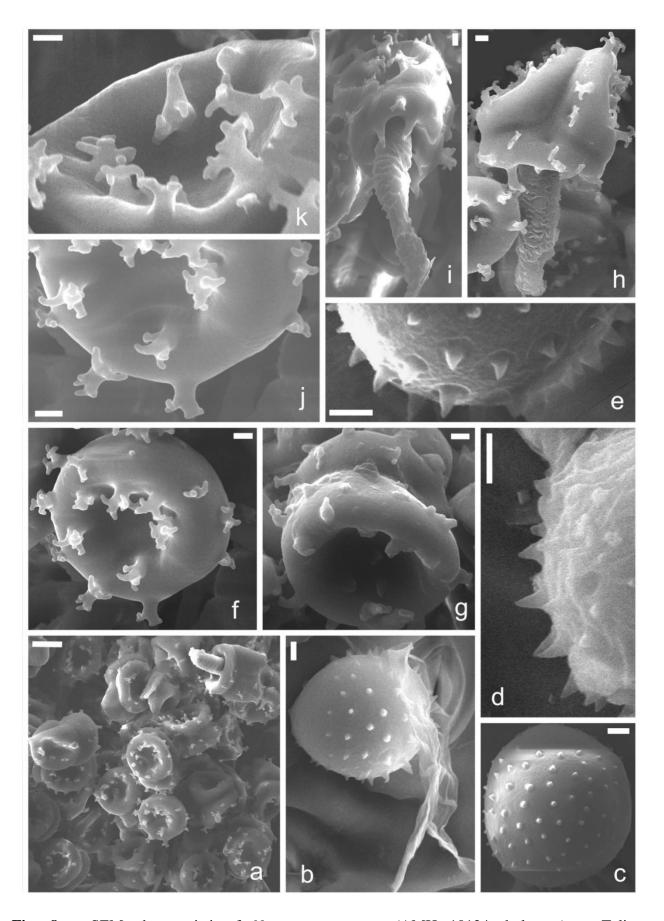


Fig. 8 – SEM characteristicsof *Nyssopsora toonae* (AMH 10124, holotype). a Telium. b, c Urediniospore showing echinulate surface. d, e Different patterns of echinulation on the surface of urediniospores. f 1-celled teliospore. g 2-celled teliospore. h 3-celled teliospore. i 4-celled teliospore. j, k Projections on teliospores. Scale bars: $a = 10 \mu m$, $b-j = 2 \mu m$.

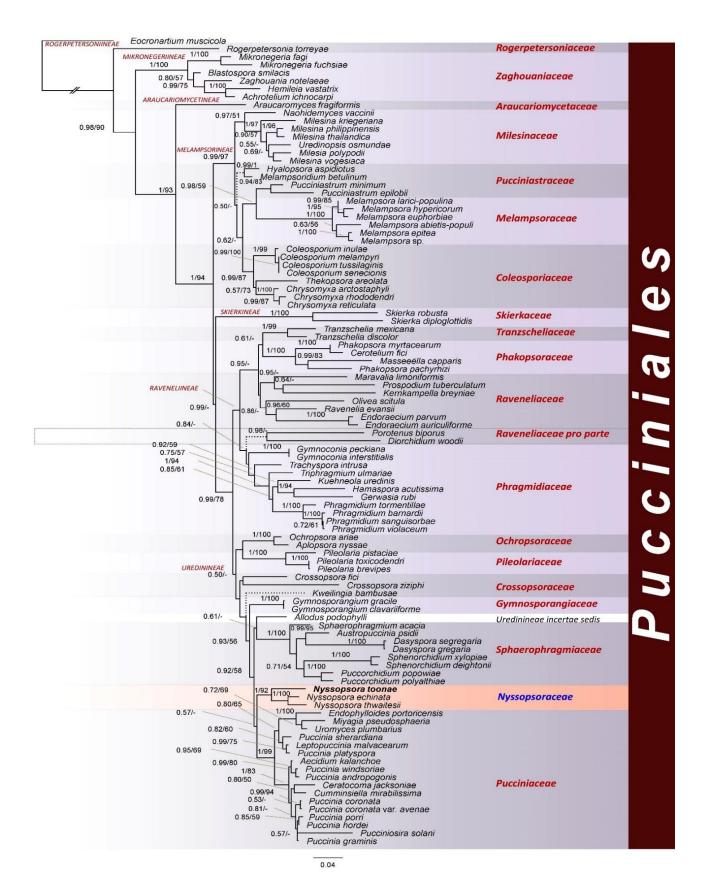


Fig. 9 – Consensus phylogram (50% majority rule) resulting from a maximum likelihood of the combined three-gene (dataset 1: LSU-SSU-CO3) sequence alignments. The Bayesian posterior probabilities (≥ 0.50 ; BI-PP) and maximum likelihood bootstrap support values ($\geq 50\%$; ML-BS) are given at the nodes (BI-PP/ML-BS). All taxa names are written in black, newly introduced species is represented in bold and novel family denoted in blue. The tree is rooted with

Eocronartium muscicola. Families are indicated by coloured blocks; dashed lines indicate uncertainty at the referenced nodes.

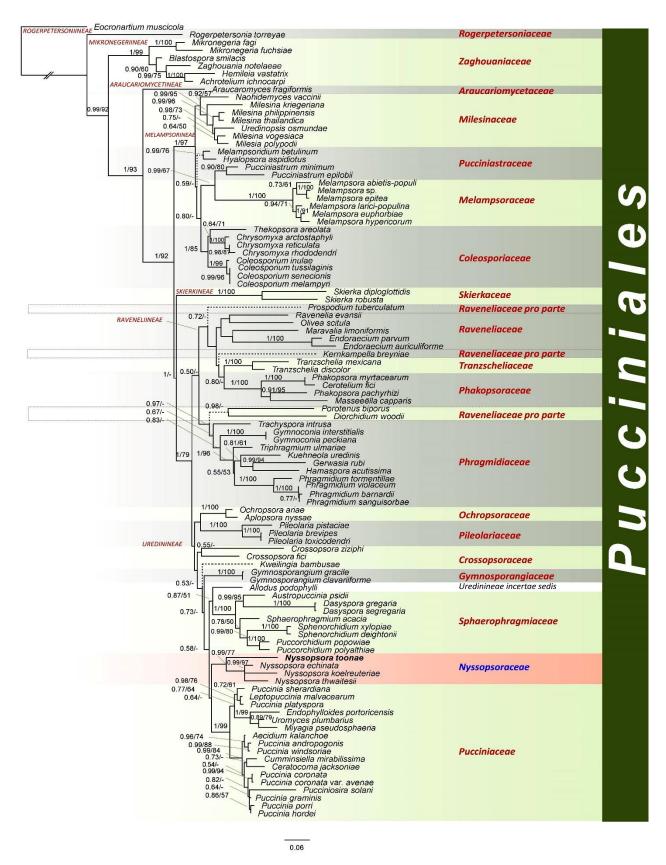


Fig. 10 – Consensus phylogram (50% majority rule) resulting from a maximum likelihood of the combined four-gene (dataset 1: LSU-SSU-CO3-ITS) sequence alignments. The Bayesian posterior probabilities (≥ 0.50 ; BI-PP) and maximum likelihood bootstrap support values ($\geq 50\%$; ML-BS)

are given at the nodes (BI-PP/ML-BS). All taxa names are written in black, newly introduced species is in bold and novel family denoted in blue. The tree is rooted with *Eocronartium muscicola*. Families are indicated by coloured blocks; dashed lines indicate uncertainty at the referenced nodes.

Discussion

In light of current concept (Aime & McTaggart 2020), the present phylogenetic analyses used more species and genera, including *Nyssopsora* and *Triphragmium*, to find out the exact placement of all the *Nyssopsora* spp. in *Pucciniales*. From both the datasets it is clear that all the *Nyssopsora* spp. are clustered together and separated as an independent lineage with strong statistical supports, not known in *Pucciniales*. Hence, it is justified to introduce a new family *Nyssopsoraceae* to accommodate all the *Nyssopsora* and allied species having 1–4-celled pedicellate teliospores bearing conspicuous projections (spines) on its surface (Figs 9, 10). Moreover, the members of *Nyssopsoraceae* are separated as a sister lineage of *Pucciniaceae* Chevall. with very low statistical supports (Figs 9, 10). Members of *Pucciniaceae* can be easily distinguished from *Nyssopsoraceae* in having typically with 1 or 2 celled teliospores (Aime & McTaggart 2020).

The type species of the genus *Triphragmium*, *T. ulmariae* (DC.) Link clustered within the *Phragmidiaceae* clade (Figs 9, 10) and was already transferred to this family by Maier et al. (2003). The genera *Nyssopsora* and *Triphragmium*, which were originally assigned to *Sphaerophragmiaceae*, are now excluded (Figs 9, 10) and support the current concepts of Aime & McTaggart (2020).

A total of 12 valid species of *Nyssopsora* have been reported across the world until now based on morphological data alone (Ngachan & Goswami 1985, Lohsomboon et al. 1990, Baiswar et al. 2014, Carvalho et al. 2014, Phetruang et al. 2019, Tykhonenko et al. 2021). Molecular sequence data of all species are necessary in order to get taxonomically sound decisions, but limited molecular sequence data are available viz., *N. echinate* (SSU), *N. koelreuteriae* (ITS) and *N. thwaitesii* (SSU, LSU & ITS) (Swann & Taylor 1995, Wingßeld et al. 2004, Baiswar et al. 2014).

Nyssopsora cedrelae and N. toonae both are reported on the same host species Toona sinensis (\equiv Cedrela sinensis), but the former species differs as later have wide range of cells (1–4) and diverse forms of shape in teliospores: spherical to subspherical (1-celled), dumbbell (2-celled), linearly arranged to triquetrous (3-celled), and T-shaped to tetrahedron (4-celled). Such features are not reported to any species of the Nyssopsora (Tables 2, 3).

Analytical studies recognize, *N. toonae* as a separate and undescribed species showing strong support of its taxonomic position within genus *Nyssopsora*. With blast search in GenBank, no sequence identical to any of the investigated genes of this species was encountered. However, the formation of wide range of cells (1–4) and the diverse forms of shape in teliospores (spherical to subspherical, dumbbell, linear to triquetrous and T-shaped to tetrahedron shaped) are the additional striking features of *N. toonae* that easily distinguish it from other *Nyssopsora* spp. (Table 2).

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Table 3 Spore states, hosts and distribution of *Nyssopsora* species.

Nyssopsora spp.	State	Host families	Hosts	Distribution	References
asiatica	III	Araliaceae	Acanthopanax sciadophylloides, Aralia chinensis var. canescens, A. chinensis var. glabrescens, A. cordata, A. elata, A. spinosa, Evodiopanax innovans, Kalopanax innovans, Merrilliopanax listeri	East Asia, U.S.S.R.	Ito (1950), Tai (1979), Lohsomboon et al. (1990)
cedrelae	I, II, III	Anacardiaceae Meliaceae Simaroubaceae	Ailanthus altissima, Cedrela serrata, C. sinensis, Cedrela sp., Choerospondias axillaris	South Asia, East Asia	Ito (1950), Lütjeharms (1937), Tai (1979), Sydow & Sydow (1912)
citriobati	III	Pittosporaceae	Citriobatus pauciflorus, C. multiflorus	Eastern Australia	Sydow (1938)
clavellosa	III	Araliaceae Rosaceae	Aralia nudicaulis, A. racemosa, Prunus sp.	North America	Arthur (1934), Lütjeharms (1937), Zeller (1935)
echinata	III	Apiaceae	Coelopleurum gmelini, Conioselinum scopulorum, C. pacificum, C. scopulorum, Ligusticum apiodorum, L. filicinum, L. leibergii, L. mutellina, L. porteri, L. prpureum, L. scopulorum, Ligusticum sp., Meum athamanticum, M. mutellina, Oenanthe californica, O. sarmentosa var. californica, Selinum pacificum	Europe, North America	Lütjeharms (1937), Sydow & Sydow (1912), Wilson & Henderson (1966)
eocaenica	III	_	Sakhalinian amber of Eocene	East Asia	Tykhonenko et al. (2021)
formosana	II, III	Sapindaceae	Koelreuteria bipinnata, K. formosana	East Asia	Lütjeharms (1937), Sawada (1931)
koelreuteriae	II, III	Sapindaceae	Koelreuteria bipinnata, K. paniculata, Koelreuteria sp.	East Asia	Sydow & Sydow (1912), Lohsomboon et al. (1990)
panamensis	II, III	Anacardiaceae	Astronium graveolens	Central America	Carvalho et al. (2014)
thirumalacharii	III	Araliaceae	Brassaiopsis griffithii	South Asia	Ngachan & Goswami (1985)
thwaitesii	III	Araliaceae	Brassaiopsis hainla, Hedera vahlii, Heptapleurum ellipticum,	South Asia, South-	Monson (1974), Sydow (1921),
		Rubiaceae	H. stellatum, H. venulosum, Heptapleurum sp., Schefflera	east Asia	Tai (1979), Berkeley & Broome
			bengalensis, S. elliptica, S. leucantha, S. lucescens, S. odorata, S. polybotrya, S. roxburgii, S. scandens, S. stellata, S.		(1875), Ngachan & Goswami
					(1985), Bagyanarayana et al. (1987), Baiswar et al. (2014),
			venulosum, S. wallichiana, Schefflera sp., Neonauclea		
			bartlingii		Lohsomboon et al. (1990), Phetruang et al. (2019)
toonae	II, III	Meliaceae	Toona sinensis	South Asia	In this communication
trevesiae	III	Araliaceae	Trevesia sundaica	South-east Asia	Boedijn (1959), Gäumann (1921)

I = Aecial state, II = Uredinial state, III = Telial state

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