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Xerogeomyces Minnis & D.L. Lindner, gen. nov.

IF 901396

Type species: *Xerogeomyces pulvereus* (A.D. Hocking & Pitt) Minnis & D.L. Lindner 2023

Colonies on MY50G at 14 days after incubation at 25°C white, appearing floccose, with deep, irregular margins; colonies covered with a powdery layer of white conidia; reverse pale.

Reproduction by means of profuse aleurioconidia; aleurioconidia born terminally, singly or rarely in very short chains, from highly branched dendritic conidiophores, subglobose to ellipsoidal, usually with truncate bases, smooth-walled, hyaline. Arthroconidia absent.

Notes: The morphological description of the genus is adapted from the description of *Geomyces pulvereus* A.D. Hocking & Pitt, *Mycologia* 80(1): 82 (1988). *Xerogeomyces* resembles *Geomyces* and allies including *Pseudogymnoascus*, but it differs in being xerophilic. ITS region DNA sequence data from the ex-holotype of *Geomyces pulvereus* (CBS 315.87, GenBank OR520910) also distinguish *Xerogeomyces* from *Geomyces*, *Pseudogymnoascus*, and close relatives. Analysis of these data using GenBank BLAST places *Xerogeomyces* among the Onygenales with the closest matches among named genera including *Dactylodendron* (92.58% identity with the type species, *Dactylodendron pinicola*, CBS 653.89, GenBank MH862194), *Emmonsiiellopsis* (91.52% identity with the type species, *Emmonsiiellopsis terrestris*, UAMH 2304, GenBank NR_153965), and *Sigleria* (88.64% identity with the type species, *Sigleria carmichaelii*, CBS 138264, GenBank KP119626).

Xerogeomyces pulvereus (A.D. Hocking & Pitt) Minnis & D.L. Lindner, comb. nov.

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Basionym: *Geomyces pulvereus* A.D. Hocking & Pitt, *Mycologia* 80(1): 82 (1988).