# The genus Chaetosphaeria and its anamorphs

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Abstract: The teleomorph genus *Chaetosphaeria* is redefined and divided into four natural groups of taxa based on morphological, cultural and molecular studies. Each group includes anamorphs of several morphologically distinct, though closely related genera, and represents a certain pattern of variability. The patterns of variation, the diagnostic value of characters of the anamorph genera corresponding to each group, and the relationships among the groups are discussed in detail. Proposals are made for future systematic studies of *Chaetosphaeria* and its anamorphs. Keys to species of *Chaetosphaeria* and genera of associated anamorphs are provided.

Key words: Chaetosphaeriaceae, dematiaceous hyphomycetes, Melanopsammella, morphogenesis, lifehistory, systematics.

# Introduction

The genus Chaetosphaeria Tul. & C. Tul. was introduced by Tulasne & Tulasne (1863) based on the type species, Chaetosphaeria innumera Berk. & Broome ex Tul. & C. Tul. About 30 species are now accepted in Chaetosphaeria by the present author. The genus is placed in the Chaetosphaeriaceae, Sordariales (Réblová et al., 1999).

Fundamental to an understanding of the systematics of Chaetosphaeria is an acknowledgement that, while several species produce both perithecia and conidia, several apparently only produce conidia. Moreover, among those species for which both sexual and asexual morphs are known, species differences are more readily seen in the anamorphs than in the perithecia. Thus, the taxonomy of Chaetosphaeria requires knowledge of the whole life-history and recognition and documentation of patterns of variation manifested by the anamorphs. The diagnostic taxonomic value of individual morphological characters of anamorphs, particularly those of conidia and conidiogenous cells, have been discussed several times (e.g. Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976; Kendrick, 1980; DiCosmo et al., 1983; Cabello & Arambarri, 1989; Holubová-Jechová, 1990). In this paper, the discussion of the value of particular morphological characters of anamorphs continues. Based on results from detailed morphological, cultural and

molecular studies, four natural groups can be distinguished in *Chaetosphaeria* and are outlined below.

# Historical résumé and taxonomic treatment of *Chaetosphaeria*

*Chaetosphaeria* species are characterized by small, glabrous or setose, non-collapsed perithecia, unitunicate asci and hyaline, two- to several-celled ascospores. Although this rather simple generic concept of *Chaetosphaeria* seems clear, about 100 species have been described and classified in the genus. Most of these, however, differ in critical taxonomic characters and are incompatible with the concept initiated by Tulasne & Tulasne (1863).

Apart from the morphological characters of ascus, hamathecium and perithecium, the characters of ascospore shape, colour and septation are generally considered the main delimiting characters in ascomycete systematics (Saccardo, 1883, 1886; Barr, 1990). These criteria were very useful in a revision of *Chaetosphaeria sensu lato* and served as a background for the subdivision of the genus into three working groups of species:

(i) Species currently placed in *Chaetosphaeria* sensu lato with superficial, dark perithecia, unitunicate asci and 4-8-celled, bicolorous ascospores with brown middle cells and hyaline end-cells (twentyeight species); the anamorphs have been classified in *Oedemium* Link, *Sporidesmium* Link, and *Veramycina* Subram. Detailed partial revisions of this group were made by Müller *et al.* (1968), Müller & Booth (1972), and Réblová (1997, 1999a-d);

(ii) Species with glabrous or setose perithecia, unitunicate asci, 2-7-celled, hyaline ascospores and anamorphs belonging to dematiaceous hyphomycetes that produce conidia on phialidic conidiogenous cells (thirty species). These species are discussed below as *Chaetosphaeria sensu stricto*;

(iii) Virtually all taxa that do not fit the concepts of either the first or the second group. A preliminary revision (Réblová, 1997) showed that many possess bitunicate asci and some, despite a similar appearance of dark perithecia, unitunicate asci and hyaline, septate ascospores, are unrelated to *Chaetosphaeria*. This group requires further investigation.

Two other genera, *Melanomma* Nitschke ex Fuckel and *Zignoëlla* Sacc., include another *ca* 200 potential species (Fuckel, 1870, 1872; Saccardo, 1878, 1883, 1886), some of which might be placed in *Chaetosphaeria* after revision (Booth, 1957, 1958; Réblová, 1998b; Réblová & Gams, 1999).

The concept of Chaetosphaeria sensu stricto presented here, in accordance with the type species, is concordant with the concepts of Booth (1957, 1958), who carried out morphological, developmental and cultural studies of six Chaetosphaeria species found in Great Britain, namely Chaetosphaeria bramleyi C. Booth, Chaet. callimorpha (Mont.) Sacc., Chaet. cupulifera (Berk. & Broome) Sacc., Chaet. innumera sensu C. Booth (= Chaet. lentomita W. Gams & Hol.-Jech; Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976), Chaet. myriocarpa C. Booth (Constantinescu et al., 1995) and Chaet. pulviscula (Currey) C. Booth. Booth (1957, 1958) reported four associated anamorph genera, viz. Catenularia Grove, Chloridium Link, Dictyochaeta Speg. (as Codinaea Maire), and Menispora Pers.

Müller & von Arx (1962) included Chaetosphaeria in their broadly conceived 'Sphaeriaceae'. They accepted seven didymosporous species of Chaetosphaeria and included another six generic synonyms under Chaetosphaeria, viz. Chaetolentomita Maubl., Didymopsamma Petr., Lentomita Niessl, Melanopsamma Niessl, Montemartinia Curzi, and Urnularia P. Karsten. No cultural studies were made by these authors, nor did they give information about associated anamorphs.

Detailed morphological and cultural studies on the dematiaceous hyphomycete genera *Dictyochaeta*, *Menispora*, *Catenularia*, and *Zanclospora* S. Hughes & W.B. Kendr., made by Hughes (1965), Hughes & Kendrick (1963, 1968) and Holubová-Jechová (1973a, b), considerably expanded the known diversity of anamorphs and established additional teleomorph relationships within *Chaetosphaeria*.

Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976) approached the concept of Chaetosphaeria from an anamorph standpoint and based their investigation on cultural studies. The authors distributed species of the anamorph genus Chloridium into the sections Chloridium, Gongromeriza and Psilobotrys, according to the structure of phialides and conidium ontogeny. They did not accept Melanopsammella Höhn., characterized by 1-septate ascospores that disarticulate at the septum, as an independent genus, but rather as a section of Chaetosphaeria, correlating with anamorphs classified in Chloridium section Chloridium. Furthermore, the dematiaceous hyphomycete genera Cylindrotrichum Bonord. and Gonytrichum C.G. Nees & F. Nees were shown by cultural studies to be anamorphs of Chaetosphaeria (Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976).

An attempt to partially solve the question of the large number of anamorph genera associated with Chaetosphaeria was made by DiCosmo et al. (1983). They emphasized the shapes of conidia and conidiogenous cells, and the distinction between mono- or polyphialides, as the main delimiting characters. DiCosmo et al. (1983) transferred the type species of Cylindrotrichum, Cyl. oligospermum (Corda) Bonord., to the older genus Chaetopsis Grev. and redisposed the other species of Cylindrotrichum into other genera. Thus, several closely related anamorph genera of Chaetosphaeria were distinguished, such as Chaetopsis, Dictyochaeta, Kylindria DiCosmo, Berch & W.B. Kendr. and Xenokylindria DiCosmo, Berch & W.B. Kendr., although they shared a number of morphological, developmental and ecological characteristics.

Cabello & Arambarri (1988) considered Cylindrotrichum a distinct genus, which they reinstated based on Cyl. oligospermum. They misunderstood the proposal made by DiCosmo et al. (1983) to adopt the older genus Chaetopsis with Cylindrotrichum as its generic synonym, incorrectly suggesting that the proposal was nomenclaturally contrary to Art. 52 of the Botanical Code 1983. Cabello & Arambarri (1988) reamalgamated species previously placed in Cylindrotrichum into a single genus, but considered neither phylogeny nor links to teleomorphs.

Constantinescu *et al.* (1995) emphasized the significance of cultural studies as one possible way to identify indistinguishable *Chaetosphaeria* teleomorphs using their anamorphs. The authors employed cultural studies to establish the connection of *P. phaeophora* W. Gams, the anamorph of *Chaetosphaeria* 

pygmaea (P. Karsten) O. Constant., K. Holm & L. Holm, with another anamorph genus, *Phialophora* Medlar; they also found a *Phialophora* sp. and *Menispora glauca* Pers. to be synanamorphs of *Chaetosphaeria ovoidea* (Fr.) O. Constant., K. Holm & L. Holm

Beside the main papers cited above, many other minor papers, dealing with *Chaetosphaeria* or chaetosphaeria-like fungi and their life-histories, have been published (e.g. Hino, 1932, 1961; Kohlmeyer, 1963; Barr & Crane, 1979; Kalani, 1964; Holubová-Jechová, 1973a, b, 1982, 1984; Fisher & Petrini, 1983; Kaur, 1991; Barr, 1993; Sivanesan & Chang, 1995, 1997; Teng, 1996; Réblová, 1998a, b; Réblová & Gams, 1999, 2000; Fernández et al., 1999).

Réblová & Winka (2000) performed phylogenetic analyses on 25 representatives of *Chaetosphaeria* and eight anamorph genera. The results of their phylogenetic analyses were congruent with certain morphological features. The authors concluded that *Chaetosphaeria* and *Melanopsammella* are paraphyletic and do not represent separate genera. In the phylogenies inferred from the LSU rDNA sequence data, species of *Chaetosphaeria* formed four main groups, which are elaborated below.

# Concept of *Chaetosphaeria* and its anamorphs

The concept of *Chaetosphaeria* and its anamorphs developed here is based on morphological characters, cultural studies and molecular data. Taxonomic work with *Chaetosphaeria* is complicated by problems resulting from the simple morphological characters of the teleomorphs and the frequent absence of anamorphs in herbarium material, which then must be interpreted without the benefit of cultural work or extype cultures.

In some cases, host specificity can be used as a differentiating character. Several species show strong host specificity, e.g. Chaet. abietis (Höhn.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech. or Chaet. fusiformis W. Gams & Hol.-Jech. on Abies alba. Other examples are Chaeto-sphaeria crustacea (Sacc.) Réblová & W. Gams or Chaet. fennica (P. Karsten) Réblová & W. Gams, which are known exclusively from conifer wood, while their counterparts, Chaet. acutata Réblová & W. Gams, fruit on wood of deciduous trees only. However, their anamorphs differ considerably.

# Nomenclature and synonymy

Chaetosphaeria Tul. & C. Tul., Sel. Fung. Carpol. 2: 252. 1863.

= Zignoëlla Sacc., Michelia 1: 346, 1878.

= Melanopsammella Höhn., Ann. Mycol. 17: 121. 1919.

Type: Chaetosphaeria innumera Berk. & Broome ex Tul. & C. Tul., Sel. Fung. Carpol. 2: 252. 1863 [non Chaetosphaeria innumera sensu C. Booth, Mycol. Pap. 68: 2. 1957  $\approx$  Chaetosphaeria lentomita W. Gams & Hol.-Jech., Stud. Mycol. 13: 24. 1976].

≡ Sphaeria innumera Berk. & Broome, in Berkeley, Outl. Br. Fungol. p. 395. 1860 [nomen nudum, not validly published, Art. 32.1.c] ≡ Lasiosphaeria innumera (Berk. & Broome ex Tul. & C. Tul.) Stevenson, Mycol. Scot. p. 391. 1879 ≡ Byssosphaeria innumera (Berk. & Broome ex Tul. & C. Tul.) Cooke, Grevillea 15: 123. 1887.

Booth (1957) proposed Zignoëlla as a taxonomic synonym of Chaetosphaeria and transferred Z. pulviscula (Currey) Sacc., the lectotype species (Clements & Shear, 1931), to Chaetosphaeria.

Müller & von Arx (1962) extended the synonymy of *Chaetosphaeria* with another six generic names, including *Chaetolentomita*, *Didymopsamma*, *Lentomita*, *Melanopsamma*, *Montemartinia*, and *Urnularia*. Upon critical inspection, all these generic names with the exception of *Lentomita* (discussed below) turned out to be unrelated to *Chaetosphaeria*.

According to Müller & von Arx (1962), Chaetolentomita lignorum Maubl., the only described species of Chaetolentomita (Maublanc & Rangel, 1915), is synonymous with Chaetosphaeria brasiliensis (Höhn.) E. Müll. The type material of Chaetolentomita lignorum was unavailable for the present study. The type material of Lentomita brasiliensis Höhn. (FH 3148), on which the name Chaetosphaeria brasiliensis is based, has the following features: perithecia long-beaked, globose, glabrous, embedded in the host tissue with only the beak erumpent above the surface, surrounded by a hyphal mat growing from the perithecial wall; perithecial wall two-layered: outer layer rather thick, consisting of thick-walled, polyhedral cells; asci long-stipitate, floating in the centrum, provided with a large, J-, refractive apical annulus; paraphyses broadly cellular, deliquescent; ascospores 2-celled, fusiform and hyaline. No associated anamorph was found. This fungus has no affinity to Chaetosphaeria or other genera of the Chaetosphaeriaceae and should be classified in Ceratostomella Sacc. (Clypeosphaeriaceae).

Didymopsamma moravica Petr., the only described species of Didymopsamma (Petrak, 1925), was synonymyzed with Chaetosphaeria brevicollis (Niessl) E. Müll. (Müller & von Arx, 1962). Examination of the type material of *D. moravica* (PRM 17364) revealed that ascomata are semi-immersed, glabrous, subglobose; ascomatal wall very thick  $(33-44 \ \mu\text{m})$ , consisting of thick-walled, polyhedral cells, heavily pigmented in the outer part; hamathecium consisting of interthecial filaments that are sparsely distributed among the asci and deliquescing early; periphysoids abundant; asci conspicuously thickened at the top, without any visible discharge mechanism; ascospores 2-celled, ellipsoidal and hyaline. No associated anamorph was found. This fungus has no affinity with *Chaetosphaeria* and the *Chaetosphaeriaceae*. I am still uncertain about its position among the pyrenomycetous ascomycetes.

Lentomita brevicollis Niessl, the type of the generic name Lentomita (Niessl, 1876), was transferred by Müller & von Arx (1962) to Chaetosphaeria, as Chaet. brevicollis (Niessl) E. Müll. The type material from Niessl's original herbarium could not be located at M (Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976), or by the present author at BRU or OP. Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976) described Chaetosphaeria lentomita, a species with ascospore size similar to Lentomita brevicollis. These authors chose the generic name Lentomita for the epithet of their new species. Judging from the protologue of L. brevicollis, it could be a member of Chaetosphaeria. I agree with conclusions made by Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976).

Melanopsamma (Niessl, 1876) is a member of the Niessliaceae (Barr, 1990; Samuels & Barr, 1997). The genus is easily distinguished from Chaetosphaeria by its glabrous, collapsing perithecia, reddishbrown, three-layered perithecial wall, the presence of periphysoides and its Stachybotrys Corda anamorph.

The type material of Montemartinia myriadea Curzi (1926), the type of its genus, was unavailable for the present study. Montmartinia myriadea was placed in Chaetosphaeria, as Chaet. myriadea (Curzi) E. Müll. (Müller & von Arx, 1962). In the protologue of M. myriadea, the ascomata are described as globose, glabrous, sitting in a hyphal subiculum; paraphyses lacking; asci cylindrical, 35-45 × 3-4 μm, ascospores ellipsoidal, 3.5-4.5 × 2-2.5 μm, 2celled and hyaline. Curzi (1926) described the associated anamorph as belonging to Ramularia Unger, a hyphomycete genus now generally associated with teleomorphs in Mycosphaerella Johanson. If M. myriadea were accepted as a member of Chaetosphaeria, it would be clearly distinct from other species in size of asci and ascospores. I hesitate to accept Montemartinia as a generic synonym of Chaetosphaeria without examining type material.

Müller & Arx (1962) also synonymized Urnularia with Chaetosphaeria. The reference to Urnularia was based on a citation of a different fungus, described by Ellis & Everhart (1893) as Melanopsamma borealis Ellis & Everh., made by Saccardo (Saccardo in Mussat, 1901). Urnularia boreëlla P. Karsten (Karsten, 1866), the type of the genus, was placed by Karsten in the family 'Phacidiacei', and later synonymized with Valsa boreëlla (P. Karsten) Ellis & Everh. by Ellis & Everhart (1892).

Réblová et al. (1999) separated Melanopsammella from Chaetosphaeria on the basis of ascospore morphology and restricted it to species with ascospores that fragment into part-spores at an early stage within the ascus. According to large subunit rDNA sequences (Réblová & Winka, 2000), species of Melanopsammella did not separate clearly from the rest of Chaetosphaeria species. The character of fragmenting ascospores, formerly considered to separate these taxa (Réblová et al., 1999), is probably insufficient for their delimitation at generic level. Therefore, Melanopsammella should be treated as a heterotypic generic synonym of Chaetosphaeria.

# Taxonomy

#### Morphology of Chaetosphaeria sensu stricto

#### TELEOMORPH

Perithecia superficial, non-stromatic or immersed at the base in a thin, superficial stroma, conical, globose to subglobose, papillate, glabrous, occasionally covered with sterile perithecial setae or setae that are similar to those found on the substratum in association with conidiophores, which may be sterile or may end in a mono- or polyphialide. Perithecial wall twolayered, brittle, narrow, ca  $15-25 \mu m$  thick, the outer layer comprising thin-walled, brown, opaque, brick-like cells or small cells with some tendency to form a textura epidermoidea, the inner layer comprising thin-walled, non-pigmented, flattened cells. Perithecial apex not differentiated from the rest of the perithecium. Ostiolar canal periphysate. Hamathecium consisting of abundant, septate, branching, anastomosing, apically free paraphyses that tend to be wider in the lower part and to taper distally, arising from the inner layer of the perithecial wall. Asci unitunicate, 8-spored, thin-walled, cylindrical-clavate, short-stipitate. The ascal apex with an inamyloid (J-), refractive apical annulus; plasmatic globule characteristic of the Lasiosphaeriaceae never present. Ascospores generally hyaline, transversely 1-6-septate, formation of septa typically delayed, narrowly to broadly ellipsoidal with tapering or broadly rounded ends, fusiform, fusiform-cylindrical or cylindrical,

germinating by germ tube, sometimes fragmenting into part-spores.

#### ANAMORPH

Colonies slow-growing, velvety or felty, of different shades of grey and brown, at times zonate. Aerial mycelium scant or well-developed, substrate mycelium usually well-developed; hyphae light-coloured, septate, branched, smooth or slightly rugose. Setae when present straight or slightly flexuous, cylindrical, septate, dark brown and usually paler towards the apex, rounded or pointed at the top or sometimes developing as a monophialide. Conidiophores macronematous, mononematous, solitary, erect, straight or slightly flexuous, unbranched or branched, arising from both aerial and substrate mycelium, occasionally forming two distinct layers, proliferating percurrently or sympodially. Conidiogenous cells mono- or polyphialides, lateral or integrated, terminal or intercalary, with one terminal or several lateral phialidic openings arising from sympodial elongation. Collarettes generally hyaline, more or less pronounced, their depth, shape and pigmentation varying with species. Conidia phialidic, cylindrical to clavate, wedge-shaped, reniform, falcate, setulose or lacking setulae, straight or curved, transversely 1- to multiseptate or non-septate, rounded at one or both ends, or rather asymmetrical and then tapering towards one end and truncate at the other, smooth, hyaline or bicolorous.

Anamorph genera: Cacumisporium Preuss, Catenularia, Cylindrotrichum pro parte, Chalara (Corda) Rabenh., Chloridium, Dictyochaeta, Gonytrichum, Menispora, Phialophora, and Zanclospora.

#### THE GROUPS OF CHAETOSPHAERIA

In a phylogenetic analysis based on large subunit rDNA sequence data, *Chaetosphaeria sensu stricto* separated into two major clades, each clade having two subclades (Réblová & Winka, 2000). These subclades coincide with certain morphological features and are regarded here as natural groups within *Chaetosphaeria*. The groups are named here informally, according to the associated anamorph genera.

# The Menispora-group - Fig. 1

Representative species: Chaetosphaeria brevispora R. Shoemaker, Chaet. dingleyae S. Hughes, W.B. Kendr. & Shoemaker., Chaet. montana Réblová, Chaet. ovoidea, Chaet. pulchriseta S. Hughes, W.B. Kendr. & Shoemaker, Chaet. pulviscula and Chaet. talbotii S. Hughes, W.B. Kendr. & Shoemaker; Striatosphaeria codinaeophora Samuels & E. Müll. Anamorph genera: *Menispora* Pers., Mycol. Europ. 1: 32, 1822; *Codinaea sensu stricto* Maire, Publ. Inst. Bot. Barcelona 3: 15, 1937; *Codinaeopsis* Morgan-Jones, Mycotaxon 4: 166, 1976.

Conidia oblong, fusiform, falcate, symmetrical or asymmetrical, straight or curved, hyaline or brown, septate or non-septate, usually provided with fine setulae at both ends; often forming small, slimy droplets attached at the tip of the conidiogenous cells. Conidiogenesis on a single conidiogenous locus within the collarette. Conidiogenous cells mono- or polyphialides, lateral, borne singly or in whorls, or integrated, terminal and intercalary, the distal part strongly recurved or straight; collarette narrow or flaring.

Two morphologically distinct teleomorph genera are associated with this group: *Chaetosphaeria* species possessing fusiform, 1–3-septate, hyaline, non-fragmenting ascospores. The ascospores usually range from  $11-26(-29) \ \mu m$  in length. *Striatosphaeria* Samuels & E. Müll. species have fusiform, 1-septate, brown, non-fragmenting ascospores 23–26  $\mu m$  long, with longitudinal ridges.

Most of numerous species originally described in *Codinaea* (as *Dictyochaeta* in Kuthubutheen & Nawawi, 1991) with oblong to fusiform, falcate, setulose conidia probably belong to this group. Other species of *Dictyochaeta sensu stricto* with non-setulose conidia, mono- or polyphialides integrated in the conidiophore and conidiogenesis on a single locus are discussed here as the *Gongromeriza*-group.

The morphology of conidiophores, phialides and conidia of *Dictyochaetopsis* Arambarri & Cabello and *Zanclospora* suggest affinities with this group.

#### The Chloridium-group - Fig. 2

Representative species: Chaetosphaeria chloroconia W. Gams & Hol.-Jech., Chaet. inaequalis (Höhn.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech., and Chaet. vermicularioides (Sacc. & Roum.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.

Anamorph genera: Chloridium Link Mag. Ges. naturf. Freunde, Berl. 3: 13, 1809, section Chloridium pro parte [including the type species, Chloridium virescens (Pers.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.]; Gonytrichum C.G. Nees & F. Nees, Nova Acta Acad. Caes. Leop.-Carol. German. Nat. Cur. 9: 244, 1818.

Conidia small, rounded, hyaline, non-septate, without setulae. Conidiogenous cells monophialides, lateral, single or in whorls, or integrated and terminal; colla-

#### The Menispora-group



Fig 1. a-e. The Menispora-group. Habit sketch of members of the group. a. Chaetosphaeria ovoidea (anamorph = Menispora glauca); b. Dictyochaeta simplex; c. Codinaeopsis gonytrichoides; d. Striatosphaeria codinaeophora; e. Menispora tortuosa [a, e after Hughes & Kendrick (1963); b after Holubová-Jechová (1984); c after Morgan-Jones (1976); d after Samuels & Müller (1978)].

#### The Chloridium-group



Fig 2. a-c. The Chloridium-group. Habit sketch of members of the group. a. Chaetosphaeria chloroconia (anamorph = Gonytrichum chlamydosporium Barron & Bhatt); b. Chaetosphaeria inaequalis (anamorph = Gonytrichum caesium); c. Chaetosphaeria vermicularioides (anamorph = Chloridium virescens), [a-c after Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976)].

rette shallow. Conidiogenesis on multiple conidiogenous loci within the collarette.

The Chaetosphaeria teleomorphs have ellipsoidal to short-fusiform, 1-septate, hyaline ascospores that fragment into part-spores at an early stage within the ascus. Most of these taxa would be included in the genus Melanopsammella sensu stricto, if generic separation were required (see Réblová & Winka, 2000). The uniting characters are conidiogenesis with multiple conidiogenous loci and fragmenting, 1-septate ascospores. Another species with sometimes fragmenting ascospores, Chaetosphaeria preussii W. Gams & Hol.-Jech. (anamorph Chloridium preussii W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.), has conidiogenesis with a single locus and clusters with the Gongromeriza-group.

Although the Chloridium-group corresponds to the anamorph genera Gonytrichum and Chloridium section Chloridium, it does not comprise all species of Chloridium with similar conidiogenesis, e.g. the Chloridium anamorphs of Chaet. crustacea, Chaet. fennica and Chaet. fusiformis. These taxa grouped with Cylindrotrichum species having conidiogenesis with multiple loci and similar conidial and ascospore morphology. They are discussed below as the Kylindria-group.

#### The Gongromeriza-group - Fig. 3

Representative species: Chaetosphaeria barbicincta (Ellis & Everh.) M.E. Barr, Chaet. bramleyi, Chaet. callimorpha, Chaet. chalaroides Hol.-Jech., Chaet. cupulifera, Chaet. cubensis Hol.-Jech., Chaet. dilabens Réblová & W. Gams, Chaet. hebetiseta Réblová & W. Gams, Chaet. innumera, Chaet. lentomita, Chaet. myriocarpa, Chaet. novaezelandiae S. Hughes, Chaet. preussii, Chaet. pygmaea.

Anamorph genera: Gongromeriza Preuss, Linnaea 24: 106, 1851 [≡ Chloridium section Gongromeriza (Preuss) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.]; Rhinotrichum Corda section Psilobotrys Sacc., Michelia 1: 87, 1877 [≡ Chloridium section Psilobotrys (Sacc.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.]; Dictyochaeta sensu stricto Speg., Physis, Buenos Aires 7: 18, 1923.

Conidia generally short-ellipsoidal, rarely fusiform to clavate, wedge-shaped or reniform, hyaline or pale brown, non-septate, without setulae. Conidiogenous cells mono- or polyphialides, integrated, terminal or intercalary, never in a lateral position on the conidiophore; collarettes narrow and short or flaring, vase- or funnel-shaped. Conidiogenesis on a single conidiogenous locus within the collarette.

The *Chaetosphaeria* teleomorphs typically have ellipsoidal to fusiform, 1-3-septate, hyaline and non-fragmenting ascospores or ascospores that fragment into part-spores; ascospores generally do not exceed 20  $\mu$ m in length.

Other anamorph genera, *Catenularia* and *Chalara* pro parte, and their teleomorphs, show affinity with the *Gongromeriza*-group. Their teleomorphs are listed below.

Although this group seems to be homogeneous, some small discrepancies are evident in the literature. Hughes & Kendrick (1968), in their account of species of *Codinaea sensu lato*, illustrated an apex of the conidiogenous cell of the *Dictyochaeta* anamorph of *Chaetosphaeria callimorpha* (1968: 341, Fig. 13) and *Codinaea setosa* S. Hughes & W.B. Kendr. (1968: 359, Fig. 28) as producing conidia on multiple conidiogenous loci. However, other illustrations in that paper show only single openings. The culture of the *Dictyochaeta* anamorph of *Chaet. callimorpha* preserved in CBS (CBS 525.88) was examined and only conidium formation from a single conidiogenous locus was observed.

#### The Kylindria-group - Fig. 4

Representative species: Chaetosphaeria abietis, Chaet. acutata, Chaet. crustacea, Chaet. decastyla, Chaet. fennica, and Chaet. fusiformis. Anamorph genera: *Cylindrotrichum* Bonord. *pro parte*, Handb. allg. Mykol., p. 88, 1851 [excluding the type species, *Cylindrotrichum oligospermum* (Corda) Bonord.]; *Kylindria* DiCosmo, Berch & W.B. Kendr., Mycologia 75: 970, 1983; *Xenokylindria* DiCosmo, Berch & W.B. Kendrick, Mycologia 75: 971, 1983; *Chloridium* section *Chloridium pro parte* [without the type species].

Conidia long-ellipsoidal to cylindrical, clavate, hyaline or brown, septate or non-septate, without setulae. Conidiogenous cells mono- or polyphialides, never in a lateral position on the conidiophore, integrated, terminal or intercalary; collarettes flaring, usually shallow. Conidiogenesis on multiple conidiogenous loci within the collarette, the apex of the conidiogenous cell sometimes proliferating conspicuously above the primary collarette, e.g. in anamorphs of *Chaet. acutata*, *Chaet. decastyla* and *Chaet. fennica*.

The *Chaetosphaeria* teleomorphs have long-fusiform to cylindrical, 3-6-septate, hyaline, non-fragmenting ascospores, generally up to  $46 \ \mu m \ long$ .

The genus Cylindrotrichum appears polyphyletic because the type species, Cvl. oligospermum (teleom. Chaetosphaeria tulasneorum Réblová & W. Gams), clustered separately in phylogenetic studies from other described Cylindrotrichum species (Réblová & Winka, 2000). Therefore, the character of conidium septation, currently used to distinguish Cylindrotrichum from Chloridium, did not prove to have a diagnostic value at the generic level, whereas whether the conidia are formed on multiple loci or on a single conidiogenous locus was more significant. Therefore, it seems appropriate to extend the genus Chloridium with the taxa formerly placed in Cylindrotrichum, while retaining only Cyl. oligospermum in this genus. The genus Cacumisporium seems to be a similar case. It has exactly the same characteristics of conidiogenesis on multiple conidiogenous loci with the collarette; in addition, conidia become bicolorous after liberation from the conidiogenous cells. In common with the feature of conidial septation, pigmentation also did not prove to have diagnostic value at the generic level (Réblová & Winka, 2000). Thus, Cacumisporium should be included in Chloridium. For the moment no formal combinations are proposed for reasons discussed below.

In order to choose the correct name for this group of taxa, three names were considered. *Cacumisporium* would have priority to name this group, but no species were included in the phylogenetic analysis. Two names, *Kylindria* and *Xenokylindria*, are available, with the same priority, which were originally confined to species separated from *Cylindrotrichum* (DiCosmo *et al.*, 1983). I chose the name *Kylindria*.

# The Gongromeriza-group



**Fig 3. a–e. The** *Gongromeriza*-group. Habit sketch of selected members of the group. a. *Chaetosphaeria myriocarpa* (anamorph = *Chloridium clavaeforme*); b. *Chaetosphaeria innumera* [anamorph = *Chloridium botryoideum* (Corda) S. Hughes]; c. *Chaetosphaeriacallimorpha*(anamorph = *Dictyochaetasp.*); d. *Chaetosphaeriadilabens*(anamorph = *Chloridium* sp.); e. *Chaetosphaeriapreussii*(anamorph = *Chloridium preussii*), [a, b, e after Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976); c after Hughes & Kendrick (1968); d after Réblová & Gams (2000)].

# The Kylindria-group



Fig 4. a-e. The Kylindria-group. Habit sketch of members of the group. a. Chaetosphaeria abietis [anamorph = Cylindrotrichum zignoëllae (Höhn.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.]; b. Chaetosphaeria acutata (anamorph = Cylindrotrichum sp.); c. Chaetosphaeria fusiformis (anamorph = Chloridium cylindrosporum W. Gams & Hol.-Jech.); d. Chaetosphaeria fennica (anamorph = Chloridium sp.); e. Chaetosphaeria crustacea (anamorph = Cylindrotrichum-Chloridium sp.), [a after Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976); b-e after Réblová & Gams (1999)].

KEY TO ANAMORPH GENERA ASSOCIATED WITH CHAETOSPHAERIA

1.	Phialides borne laterally on the conidiophore, in whorls, singly or on short branches, sometimes
	integrated in the conidiophore, terminal or intercalary; collarette inconspicuous or strongly
	recurved in the upper part or cup-shaped; conidiophores unbranched or branched; conidia often
	with setulae
1.	Phialides exclusively integrated in the conidiophore, terminal or intercalary; collarette more or less
	pronounced; conidiophores unbranched or seldom simply branched; conidia always non-setulose

- Phialides borne exclusively laterally; collarette inconspicuous or strongly recurved in the uppermost 3. Phialides integrated in the conidiophore, terminal or intercalary, rarely lateral; collarette cup-shaped; 3. conidiophores unbranched, often accompanied by setae; conidia hyaline, fusiform, falcate, nonseptate or septate, with fine setulae at each end, forming slimy heads . Codinaea sensu stricto Phialides borne singly, on 1-3 supporting cells or on short branches on the conidiophore, apex of the 4. phialide usually strongly recurved; conidiophores often terminating in a sterile whip-like elongation; conidia hyaline, oblong, fusiform, symmetrical or asymmetrical, with or without setulae, non-septate or 3-septate, forming slimy heads ..... Menispora Phialides borne in whorls along the main axis of the conidiophore or its branches; conidiophores 4. branched or unbranched, apical cell sterile or developing into a monophialide; conidia hyaline, falcate, gently or strongly curved, non-septate, forming singly ..... Zanclospora 5. Conidia formed on multiple conidiogenous loci within the collarette, apex of the conidiogenous cell 5. Collarette long, tubular; conidia hyaline, wedge-shaped or cylindrical, non-septate or septate, forming 6. singly or in chains ...... Chalara 6. 7. Conidiophores associated with capitate hyphae, proliferating percurrently; conidia dark brown, rounded-obconical, truncate at the basal scar, rounded or flattened at the apex, forming chains . Conidiophores not associated with capitate hyphae, proliferating percurrently or sympodially .... 8 7. 8. Conidia generally short-ellipsoidal, rarely fusiform to clavate, wedge-shaped or reniform, hyaline or pale brown, non-septate, forming slimy heads or chains ..... Chloridium pro parte Conidia fusiform, symmetrical or asymmetrical, hyaline, non-septate, forming slimy heads ..... 8. ..... Dictyochaeta sensu stricto 9. Conidia bicolorous, middle cells pale brown, end-cells hyaline, fusiform, forming slimy heads; conidiophores proliferating percurrently ..... Cacumisporium Conidia hyaline or light pigmented; conidiophores proliferating percurrently or sympodially ... 10 9. Conidia non-septate, short-ellipsoidal to long-ellipsoidal or cylindrical, forming complex cirrhi or 10. slimy heads ..... Chloridium pro parte Conidia septate, long-ellipsoidal to cylindrical or clavate, forming dry or slimy heads ..... 10. ..... Cylindrotrichum pro parte

#### KEY TO SPECIES OF CHAETOSPHAERIA

This key is mainly based on anamorphic features. Delayed formation of ascospore septa is typical of *Chaetosphaeria* and has been observed in many species. For example, *Chaet. callimorpha* and *Chaet. montana* initially have 1-septate ascospores, but mature ascospores have two additional septa. In *Chaet. crustacea*, 3-septate ascospores are usually observed within the asci. Ascospores released from the perithecia and attached to the substratum surface or outer perithecial wall always have 4-6 septa. In case of doubt about the state of maturity of ascospores and the formation of additional septa, therefore, 1 recommend following both key entries for species with 1-septate and species with more than 1-septate ascospores at maturity.

The numbers after each species name indicate principal references listed after the key.

 Ascospores I-septate at maturity, sometimes fragmenting into part-spores
 Ascospores more than I-septate at maturity, usually 3-6-septate, sometimes fragmenting into partspores
 I3

2. 2.	Anamorph Chalara
3.	Anamorph Chalara breviclavata; conidia hyaline, ellipsoidal to shortly clavate, 3.5-4.5 μm wide, 10-20 μm long; ascospores 9-17 × 3.5-4 μm; asci 62-83 × 6.5-8 μm Chaet. chalaroides <sup>8</sup>
3.	Anamorph Chalara brevispora; conidia hyaline, wedge-shaped, 1.5-2 μm wide, ca 3 μμm long; ascospores 8.5-10.5(-11.5) × 2-2.5 μm; asci 59-68 × 5-6 μm Chaet. bramleyi <sup>3,5</sup>
4.	Anamorph <i>Phialophora phaeophora</i> ; conidia hyaline, wedge-shaped, 2-2.5 × 4.5-5(-6) μm; conidi- ophores proliferating percurrently, collarette darker, funnel or vase-shaped; ascospores cylindrical to ellipsoidal, (5-)6-8 × 2-2.5 μm; asci (47-)52-58(-65) × 4-5 μm . Chaet. pygmaea <sup>4</sup>
4.	Anamorph different 5
5. 5.	Anamorph Chloridium
6. 6.	Conidiogenesis with a single locus within the collarette
7. 7.	Conidia ellipsoidal
8. 8.	Ascospores non-fragmenting 9 Ascospores fragmenting, part-spores 2.5-3.5 × 1.5-2 μm; asci 45-55 × 3.5-4 μm; anamorph <i>Chloridium preussii</i> ; conidia short-ellipsoidal, hyaline, 1.5-2 × 2.5-3.5 μm; conidiophores proliferating percurrently, collarette cup-shaped <i>Chaet. preussii</i> 5
9.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium pachytrachelum</i> ; conidia ellipsoidal to cylindrical, hyaline, $(2-)2.5-3.5 \times (3.5-)5-7.5(-9) \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating percurrently, collarette cup-shaped, darker than the tip of phialides; ascospores fusiform, $(10.5-)12.5-14.5(-16.5) \times 4-5 \mu m$ ; asci $(86-)$ 90-107 × 6-8(-10.5) $\mu m$
9.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium</i> sp.; conidia ellipsoidal, slightly apiculate at the base, hyaline, $3.5-4(-5) \times 2-2.5 \ \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating percurrently, forming two distinct layers, collarette cup-shaped; ascospores cylindrical to slightly fusiform, $10.5-17.5 \times 2.5-3.5 \ \mu m$ ; asci $70-75 \times 6-7 \ \mu m$
10. 10.	Anamorph Gonytrichum 11 Anamorph different 12
11.	Anamorph Gonytrichum caesium; conidia short-ellipsoidal, hyaline, 1.5-2 × 3-5 μm; conidiophores with a conspicuous lateral branching pattern, collarette shallow; ascospores fusiform, fragmenting, part-spores 2.5-3.5(-4.5) × 2-2.5(-3) μm; asci (40-)67-90 × 4-5 μm Chaet. inaequalis <sup>5</sup>
11.	Anamorph Gonytrichum chlamydosporium; conidia short-ellipsoidal, hyaline $1.0-2 \times 3-4 \mu m$ ; conidiophores unbranched, proliferating percurrently, collarette shallow; ascospores fusiform, fragmenting, part-spores $3-4 \times 2-3 \mu m$ ; asci $(45-)72-86(-90) \times 3.5-4 \mu m$ .
12.	Anamorph Zanclospora brevispora; conidia falcate, 1-celled, curved, hyaline, $1.5-2 \times 5.5-8(-9.5)$ $\mu$ m; conidiophores unbranched; ascospores fusiform, $8-10 \times 3-4 \mu$ m; asci $63-75 \times 5-7 \mu$ m <i>Chaet. brevispora</i> <sup>10</sup>
12.	Anamorph <i>Codinaea</i> sp.; conidia 2-celled, setulose, hyaline, 14-17 × 1.5-2.5 μm; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, phialides borne also laterally; ascospores cylindrical to fusiform, 9-12.5 × 2.5-3.5 μm; asci 60-80 × 6-8 μm, with stipe 5-15 μm <i>Chaet. dingleyae</i> <sup>10</sup>
13(1). 13.	Anamorph Chloridium       14         Anamorph different       19
14. 14.	Conidiogenesis with a single locus within the collarette       15         Conidiogenesis with multiple loci within the collarette       17

15. 15.	Conidia hyaline
16.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium botryoideum</i> ; conidia ellipsoidal, hyaline, $1-1.5 \times (2.5-)3-4.5(-5) \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, collarette narrow and short; ascospores fusiform, 3-septate, $(10-)12-16 \times 3.5-4 \mu m$ ; asci $65-90 \times 7-9 \mu m$ <i>Chaet. innumera</i> <sup>5</sup>
16.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium-Dictyochaeta</i> ; conidia ellipsoidal to slightly asymmetrical, hyaline, non-septate, $4-4.5(-5) \times 2-2.5 \ \mu\text{m}$ ; conidiophores simply branched, proliferating percurrently and sympodially, associated with setae; setae darker near the base, paler upwards with blunt, hyaline end-cell; collarette narrow and short; ascospores fusiform, 3-septate, $(15-)17-21(-22.5) \times 4-5(-7) \ \mu\text{m}$ ; asci $96.5-123(-126) \times 10.5-11.5 \ \mu\text{m}$
17. 17.	<ul> <li>Conidia hyaline</li> <li>Anamorph <i>Chloridium</i> sp.; Conidia pale brown, ellipsoidal, 8.5-9.5(-10) × 3-4.5 μm; conidio-phores proliferating percurrently and sympodially, collarette shallow, apex of the conidiogenous cell proliferating percurrently above the primary collarette; ascospores elongate-fusiform and tapering strongly towards the ends immediately after the middle septum, 3-septate, (34.5-) 36.5-42(-43) × (3.5-)4(-4.5) μm; asci (126-)133-152(-168) × (8.5-)9-10.5 μm</li> <li>Chaet. fennica <sup>13</sup></li> </ul>
18.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium-Cylindrotrichum</i> ; conidia cylindrical-clavate or fusiform, 1-celled, hyaline, $(11.5-)14.5-17(-21) \times 3-4.5 \ \mu\text{m}$ ; conidiophores proliferating percurrently, collarette shallow; ascospores cylindrical-fusiform, predominantly 3-septate, at maturity 4-6-septate, (15.5-) $19-26(-28) \times 3-3.5(-4) \ \mu\text{m}$ ; asci $75-105(-115) \times (8.5-)9.5-10.5 \ \mu\text{m}$ <i>Chaet. crustacea</i> <sup>13</sup>
18.	Anamorph <i>Chloridium cylindrosporum</i> ; conidia cylindrical with tapering and rounded or truncate ends, 0-3-septate, 10.5-13.5 × 3.5-5 μm; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, forming two layers, collarette shallow; ascospores cylindrical-fusiform, tapering towards one end, 3-septate, (34.5-)39-53.5(-62) × 2.5-3(-4) μm; asci (89-)99-126(-146) × 8.5-10.5(-11.5) μm . <i>Chaet. fusiformis</i> <sup>5,13</sup>
19. 19.	Anamorph Codinaea sensu stricto       20         Anamorph different       22
20. 20.	Setae absent among conidiophores; conidia falcate, asymmetrical, non-septate, hyaline, setulose, 7.5-11 × 1.6-2.5 μm; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, collarette cup-shaped; ascospores fusiform, 3-septate, 15-22 × 4-5 μm; asci 70-100 μm long in the <i>pars sporifera</i> , 7-10 μm wide, stipe 8-14 μm
21.	Setae strongly pointed at their apices, always with opaque contents in the apical cells; conidia falcate, non-septate, hyaline, with short setulae, $23-29 \times 2.5-3 \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, collarette cup-shaped; ascospores fusiform, 3-septate, $12-18 \times 4-6 \mu m$ ; asci 65-80 $\times 7-12 \mu m$ Chaet. pulchriseta <sup>10</sup>
21.	Setae blunt at their apices, always with paler or hyaline contents of the apical cells; conidia falcate, hyaline, non-septate, with short setulae, $22-26(-29) \times 3-4 \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, collarette cup-shaped; ascospores fusiform, $1(-3)$ -septate, $(18.5-)19-25 \times 5.5-7 \mu m$ ; asci $100-130 \times (9.5-)10.5-12.5 \mu m$
22.	Anamorph <i>Dictyochaeta sensu stricto</i> ; conidia cylindrical to oval, asymmetrical, hyaline, non-septate, non-setulose, 10–15.5 × 2–3 μm; conidiophores proliferating sympodially, collarette cup-shaped; ascospores fusiform, 1(–3)-septate, 11–16 × 3–4 μm; asci 80–100 × 6–8 μm
22.	Anamorph different
23. 23.	Anamorph cylindrotrichum-like
24.	Anamorph Cylindrotrichum sp.; conidia cylindrical-clavate, hyaline, 1-septate, $(11-)12.5-15.5$ $(-16.5) \times 4-5 \mu m$ ; conidiophores proliferating percurrently, collarette shallow, apex of the conidiogenous cell proliferating percurrently above the primary collarette; ascospores long-

24	<ul> <li>fusiform, 3-septate, (28-)30.5-38(-44) × 3-4(-5) μm; asci (95-)121-147 × (8.5-) 9.5-10.5(-11.5) μm</li> <li>Anamorph <i>Cylindrotrichum zignoëllae</i>; conidia cylindrical to fusiform, hyaline, non-septate, 6-12 × 2-3.5 μm; conidiophores proliferating percurrently and sympodially, collarette narrow; ascospores cylindrical-fusiform, 3-septate, 27-36.5(-41) × (2.5-)3-4 μm; asci (89-)90-120(-130) × 9.5-10.5 μm</li> </ul>
25 25	
26 26	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
27	7. Anamorph Catenularia cuneiformis; conidia rounded-obconical, truncate at the basal scar, rounded or flattened at the apex, dark brown, non-septate, (5.5-)7.5-10(-11.5) μm wide at the distal end, (2.5-)3.5-4.5(-6) μm wide at the flattened base, (9-)11-13.5(-15) μm long; ascospores fusiform, 4-5-septate, 15-28 × 4-5 μm; asci 80-120 × 9-10 μm Chaet. cupulifera <sup>3</sup>
27	
28 28	
29	9. Synanamorphs Menispora glauca and Phialophora sp.; conidia of Menispora glauca fusiform, curved, hyaline, 3-septate, with fine setulae at each end, 17-24(-27) × 3-4 μm; conidia of Phialophora cylindrical to oval, asymmetrical, hyaline, non-septate, 4-5 × 1.5-2 μm; ascospores fusiform, 3-septate, 21-29 × 4-5.5(-6) μm; asci (100-)115-150 × 8.5-11.5 μm Chaet. ovoidea <sup>4,6,12</sup>
29	

Principal references to modern descriptions:

- <sup>1</sup> Barr (1993) <sup>2</sup> Booth (1957)

- <sup>3</sup> Booth (1957) <sup>4</sup> Constantinescu *et al.* (1995) <sup>5</sup> Gams & Holubová-Jechová (1976)
- <sup>6</sup> Holubová-Jechová (1973b)
   <sup>7</sup> Holubová-Jechová (1982)

- <sup>8</sup> Holubová-Jechová (1984)
   <sup>9</sup> Hughes (1965)
   <sup>10</sup> Hughes & Kendrick (1968)
   <sup>11</sup> Réblová (1998a)
   <sup>12</sup> Réblová (1998b)
   <sup>13</sup> Réblová & Gams (1999)
   <sup>14</sup> Réblová & Gams (2000)

# Discussion

Assessing the characters of anamorphs in the life cycle of a holomorph is a basic step in the systematics of *Chaetosphaeria*. From the phylogenetic point of view, an ideal situation would be if one teleomorph genus were associated with one anamorph genus, or with one to several synanamorph genera produced by the same fungus. Ten anamorph genera of dematiaceous hyphomycetes producing phialidic conidia have been linked to *Chaetosphaeria*. The anamorph genera were originally distinguished on a very narrow basis and seem to be variations on a theme that no longer can be considered to represent phylogenetically homogenous taxa.

The question of the taxonomic value of particular characters that might serve as a solid basis for distinguishing natural units of conidial anamorphs has been addressed several times (e.g. Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976; Kendrick, 1980; DiCosmo et al., 1983; Cabello & Arambarri, 1989; Holubová-Jechová, 1990), each study giving different weight to individual morphological characters. In the present analysis, the uniting characters of the anamorphs of Chaetosphaeria were observed to be (i) mononematous, macronematous, erect, dark brown pigmented conidiophores, and (ii) phialides that are mostly integrated, terminal or intercalary or sometimes borne in a lateral position. The main differentiating characters of anamorphs belonging to each of the four groups distinguished in Chaetosphaeria above are (i) structure of the phialides, (ii) presence or absence of lateral phialides on the conidiophore, (iii) shape of conidia, and (iv) presence or absence of setulae. Certain combinations of these features correlate with particular morphological types of ascospores. Sympodially or percurrently proliferating conidiophores correspond to poly- and monophialides, respectively. Pigmentation of conidia appears to be taxonomically misleading and phylogenetically less significant at the genus level, possibly useful in distinguishing species.

Chaetosphaeria has a long history of taxonomic problems. While the characters of perithecia, ascospores and asci are very uniform, they are often insufficient for correct identification. The great species diversity in *Chaetosphaeria* is manifested in the associated anamorphs. Distinction of closely related species is impossible on the basis of ascospore, ascus and perithecium morphology only, e.g. *Chaet. myriocarpa* and *Chaet. pygmaea, Chaet. chloroconia* and *Chaet. vermicularioides, Chaet. barbicincta* and *Chaet. lentomita, Chaet. callimorpha, Chaet. montana* and *Chaet. pulchriseta*, etc. Thus, *Chaetosphaeria* seems to represent an example where evolutionary change is manifested most visibly in the morphology of the conidiophores, conidiogenous cells and conidia rather than of the perithecia, asci and ascospores.

Our phylogenetic analysis using LSU rDNA data set of 25 representative taxa from eight of eleven anamorph genera showed that the genus Chaetosphaeria is not monophyletic as circumscribed currently (Réblová & Winka, 2000). It should be pointed out that this phylogenetic discussion is based on a gene tree rather than a species tree, and that it is still based on a rather limited selection of species. Chaetosphaeria aterrima (Fuckel) Réblová and Chaet. tulasneorum Réblová & W. Gams and two related asexual taxa, Custingophora olivacea Stolk, Hennebert & Klopotek and Cylindrotrichum hennebertii W. Gams & Hol.-Jech., did not cluster with other species of Chaetosphaeria. At the moment, 30 species of Chaetosphaeria and ten anamorph genera are accepted. The known links to teleomorphs of seven of them are exclusively with the Chaetosphaeriaceae, mostly with Chaetosphaeria. The genera Chalara, Cylindrotrichum and Phialophora, as presently used, are polyphyletic.

The type species of Cylindrotrichum, the Cyl. oligospermum anamorph of Chaet. tulasneorum, and its nonsetose asexual counterpart, Cyl. hennebertii, grouped within the Hypocreales/Microascales clade (Réblová & Winka, 2000), separate from the remaining species of Cylindrotrichum. I know of only one herbarium specimen containing both the Chaetosphaeria and Cyl. oligospermum morphs (Réblová & Gams, 1999). This species will require further examination and taxonomic treatment. These two species differ from other Cylindrotrichum species by their narrowly cylindrical, 1-septate conidia. Similar conidia are found in Chaetopsis Grev., which is regarded as a separate genus with polyblastic conidiogenesis and a predominantly lateral branching pattern of the conidiophores. The relationship of Chaetopsis to Cyl. oligospermum was discussed by Kendrick (1980) and DiCosmo et al. (1983). The proposal made in the latter paper to separate Cyl. oligospermum and Cyl. hennebertii from other species placed in Cylindrotrichum at that time seems warranted. Samuels (1985) suggested that the results of the numerical analysis performed by DiCosmo et al. (1983) were misleading. In his study of four species of Chaetopsina Rambelli associated with perithecia of Nectria Fr., Samuels (1985) concluded that none of the characters given great or even moderate weight (conidium shape and presence of monoor polyphialides) by DiCosmo et al. (1983) were highly significant. He discovered another rather subtle character (pigmentation of the setose conidiophores) that united Chaetopsina anamorphs of Nectria, without the need to classify them in more than one genus. Samuels' decision was confirmed by our study (Réblová & Winka, 2000),

although a rather limited sample of species was employed in the molecular analysis. Furthermore, none of the characters emphasized by DiCosmo *et al.* (1983) proved to be significant at the generic level.

The subsequent discussion concerns only the species of Chaetosphaeria sensu stricto corresponding to the Chaetosphaeriaceae. Chalara is morphologically simple but phylogenetically a very heterogeneous taxon and has been linked to teleomorphs belonging to different groups of ascomycetes. Paulin & Harrington (this volume) review the phylogeny of chalara-like anamorphs. I will focus only on those Chalara and Cylindrotrichum species in the monophyletic Chaetosphaeriaceae that form two morphologically homogeneous groups of taxa. The Chalara species that have been linked to Chaetosphaeria bramlevi (Booth, 1958; Gams & Holubová-Jechová, 1976), Chaet. chalaroides (Holubová-Jechová, 1984) and the monotypic genus Ascochalara Réblová (Réblová, 1999e) share very similar appearance of conidiophores, conidia and conidiogenous cells. Apart from the deep tubular collarette in Chalara, these species most strongly resemble Chloridium, for instance the Chloridium clavaeforme (Preuss) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech. anamorph of Chaet. myriocarpa and the Phialophora phaeophora anamorph of Chaet. pygmaea (Phialophora phaeophora represents a miniature Chloridium; Gams, this volume). Both Chl. clavaeforme and Ph. phaeophora have a tendency to form similar wedge-shaped conidia and flaring or funnel-shaped collarettes somewhat deeper than those of other Chloridium species.

Similarly, the species of Cylindrotrichum auct. belonging to Chaetosphaeria show a similar degree of variability. Three Cylindrotrichum species with multiple conidiogenous loci that have been linked to Chaetosphaeria, viz. Chaet. abietis, Chaet. acutata, and Chaet. crustacea, show remarkable similarity with two other species of Chloridium having the same conidial ontogeny, the anamorphs of Chaet. fennica and Chaet. fusiformis. However, their conidiogenesis from multiple conidiogenous loci would place them in section Chloridium. Here, they are designated the Kylindria-group. The main difference separating these genera is conidial septation; non-septate conidia in Chloridium and septate in Cylindrotrichum. However, this character does not have phylogenetic value at the generic level, but rather diagnostic value in distinguishing species (Réblová & Winka, 2000).

The Chloridium virescens (Pers.) W. Gams & Hol.-Jech. anamorph of Chaetosphaeria vermicularioides did not cluster with other species of Chloridium of the Gongromeriza-group, but was nested with high bootstrap support among species of Gonytrichum (as the Chloridium-group) sharing the same morphological characteristics of conidia, conidium ontogeny and ascospore morphology. Gonytrichum is characterized by conidiophores having lateral phialides in whorls or formed singly along the main axis, and a specific branching pattern of conidiophores recognized particularly in Gonytrichum caesium C.G. Nees & F. Nees. Nevertheless, the lateral phialides often disappear during cultivation, usually after a few transfers on artificial media, leaving conidiophores identical to those of species of Chloridium section Chloridium. The associated teleomorphs correspond in part to Melanopsammella. In order to keep Melanopsammella as a separate, though closely related taxon to Chaetosphaeria, a narrower definition of the generic concept would be required. Because Chloridium virescens is otherwise consistent in morphology of conidiophores and conidia with other Chloridium species of the Gongromerizagroup and in the structure of a phialide with species of the Kylindria-group, I do not believe that these three groups represent distinct genera. The differences manifested in the structure of their phialides, single locus (Gongromeriza-group) vs. multiple loci (Chloridiumgroup and Kylindria-group), are too small. However, serious problems would arise if all groups of chaetosphaeriaceous anamorphs were subsumed in a single genus, because members of the Menispora-group differ so widely from the others, and might represent extremes within the same pattern of development that is found in other anamorphs of Chaetosphaeria.

The Menispora-group was recognized as a sister to the Chloridium-group within one large clade (Réblová & Winka, 2000). It contains asexual species of Codinaea sensu stricto, Codinaeopsis, Menispora and two other sexual species classified in Striatosphaeria and Chaetosphaeria. As in the Chloridium-group, lateral phialides do not occur regularly; but they are typical of most species of Menispora, Codinaeopsis and partly Dictyochaeta sensu lato. The main characters that separate the Menispora-group from the Chloridium-group are the structure of the phialide and the shape of the conidia: large, oblong, often curved, usually provided with setulae, formed from a single conidiogenous locus in the Menispora-group vs. small, short-ellipsoidal, non-setulose conidia formed from multiple conidiogenous loci in the Chloridium-group. However, the conidia of Codinaeopsis, Codinaea sensu stricto and Menispora resemble those of Chloridium and Cylindrotrichum species of the Kylindria-group, with the exception that setulose conidia and lateral phialides never appear.

Codinaea Maire (1937) has often been considered a synonym (Gamundi et al., 1977) of Dictyochaeta Speg. (Spegazzini, 1923). The genus is based on Codinaea aristata Maire, whose holotype is considered lost (Hughes & Kendrick, 1968). According to the illustration, the fungus has long, brown and multiseptate setae, shorter conidiophores with monophialides producing

falcate, hyaline, 1-celled and setulose conidia. Dictyochaeta fuegiana Speg., the type of Dictyochaeta, was described with long, brown, multiseptate setae that may end in a polyphialide and are accompanied by shorter conidiophores ending in a mono- or polyphialide, producing clavate, 1-celled, non-setulose conidia. Despite the similar characters of these two genera, the presence of setulose conidia distinguishes them. Hughes & Kendrick (1968) preferred to use the name Codinaea; after examining type material of D. fuegiana they regarded its systematic position as uncertain. Later, Gamundí et al. (1977) recollected and redescribed D. fuegiana and adopted Spegazzini's name, making Codinaea a synonym. When Gamundí et al. (1977) merged both genera, followed by other authors (e.g. Kirk, 1982; Holubová-Jechová, 1984), they did not attribute much significance to the presence or absence of setulae at the generic level but used it rather as a solid feature for distinguishing species.

Since the description of both Codinaea and Dictyochaeta, more than 80 species have been described (Kuthubutheen & Nawawi, 1991). Réblová & Winka (2000) analysed several strains of species falling in Dictyochaeta sensu stricto and Codinaea sensu stricto using large subunit rDNA sequences: the Dictvochaeta anamorph of Chaetosphaeria callimorpha (Mont.) Sacc. on one hand and Dictyochaeta simplex (S. Hughes & W.B. Kendr.) Hol.-Jech. and D. fertilis (S. Hughes & W.B. Kendr.) Hol.-Jech. on the other. On the basis of the LSU rDNA sequence data, species corresponding to Codinaea sensu stricto (the Menispora-group) separated clearly from species that match the circumscription of Dictyochaeta sensu stricto (the Gongromeriza-group). Moreover, species of Dictyochaeta sensu stricto grouped with several sexual and asexual species currently recognized as Chloridium section Gongromeriza and section Psilobotrys (Gams & Holubová, 1976). The uniting characters are conidiogenesis from a single locus within the collarette and non-setulose conidia. Several species of Chloridium, including Chloridium smithiae (Sinclair & Eicker, 1985), Chl. codinaeoides Pirozynski (Pirozynski, 1972) and the Chloridium-Dictyochaeta anamorph of Chaetosphaeria hebetiseta Réblová & W. Gams (Réblová & Gams, 2000), occupy an intermediate position between the two sections of Chloridium as well as between Chloridium and Dictyochaeta sensu stricto, providing difficulties in their classification at the generic level. However, the distinction of Codinaea and Dictyochaeta seems quite important, though both genera show only slight differences from the taxa mentioned above. The existence of intermediate or extralimital species that share features partly of Menispora, Chloridium, Codinaea, Cylindrotrichum, Dictyochaeta and Gonytrichum led to the description of other intermediate genera,

including Codinaeopsis Morgan-Jones and Dictyochaetopsis Arambarri & Cabello. For these reasons, though it seems appropriate to separate Codinaea from Dictyochaeta, Codinaea should be confined to species with setulose conidia and be included in Menispora as a synonym. Dictyochaeta comprises species with nonsetulose conidia and can be merged with Chloridium (Gongromeriza). On the basis of molecular data, it is no longer justified to separate Chloridium species into these two sections, as the species with sympodially and percurrently proliferating conidiophores in combination with flaring and narrow collarettes, respectively, did not clearly separate from each other. The relationship of Dictyochaeta sensu stricto with Chloridium (Gongromeriza), and Codinaea sensu stricto with Codinaeopsis, Dictyochaetopsis and Menispora, requires further investigation. The type species of both genera, C. aristata and D. fuegiana, have not yet been studied with molecular methods.

The distinction of Codinaea sensu stricto and Menispora, although they are retained as separate genera, now seems hardly justified. The main difference between the two genera is in the morphology of the conidiogenous locus and structure of conidiophores. In Menispora species, the lower part of the conidiophores is fertile. The lateral phialides are borne singly or at times on short branches on the conidiophore. The uppermost part of the phialide is strongly recurved through a full 180°, having a beak-like appearance and ending in a very narrow and short collarette. The extended upper part of the conidiophore is sterile, sinuous and whip-like. Species recognized as Codinaea sensu stricto have shorter, usually sympodially branched conidiophores with several lateral phialidic openings giving the conidiophores a geniculate appearance, or seldom only with one terminal phialidic opening. Conidiophores are often accompanied by setae that may end in a mono- or polyphialide. Phialides have flaring collarettes and conidia are setulose. However, several species recognized as Menispora have exactly the same characteristics as Codinaea sensu stricto, with one exception, their narrow, recurved uppermost part of the conidiogenous cell, e.g. Menispora britannica (M.B. Ellis) P.M. Kirk (Kirk, 1985), M. gamundiae Arambarri & Cabello (Arambarri & Cabello, 1995) and M. fuegiana Arambarri & Godeas (Arambarri & Godeas, 1994). In these species, the long, erect conidiophores with one to several phialidic openings are associated with sterile, sinuous setae. Their inclusion in Menispora required an expansion of the generic concept to species with integrated phialides. However, they might be related to species of the Gongromeriza-group.

The Dictyochaeta sensu lato and Menispora species that possess single, laterally borne phialides on the conidiophore and flaring collarettes were recently reclassified in the new genus Dictyochaetopsis (Arambarri & Cabello, 1990). This group includes, for example, Dictyochaeta antillana Castañeda, D. menisporoides Hol.-Jech., the Codinaea anamorph of Chaet. dingleyae, Codinaea elegantissima Lunghini, C. filamentosa Onofri, Menispora glauco-nigra Cooke & Ellis and Menispora apicalis Berk. & M.A. Curtis. For Menispora and Dictyochaetopsis, it is not unusual that species with both setulose conidia and conidia without setulae occur together within one genus. Species of these genera with non-setulose conidia always have lateral phialides.

Codinaeopsis Morgan-Jones (1976) is a monotypic genus described for a marginal species, Codinaea gonytrichoides Shearer & Crane. The phialides have flaring collarettes and are borne in whorls along the main axis of a conidiophore, thus representing the branching pattern described for Gonytrichum species. However, in strains of Gonytrichum, lateral phialides borne in regular whorls or singly on the conidiophore can be accommodated without a need of generic distinction. The positioning of dematiaceous hyphomycete genus Codinaeopsis in the Menispora-group indicates that its link to Chaetosphaeria is highly probable.

The phylogenetic relationships among the anamorphs of Chaetosphaeria are very close, and a similar gradation and patterns of characters of conidiophores and phialides and conidium ontogeny occur in both major clades distinguished in the phylogenetic analyses (Réblová & Winka, 2000). Chaetosphaeria appears to be a monophyletic taxon. There are several possible solutions to the question of the large number of anamorph genera. We can retain all ten, morphologically distinct but evolutionarily closely related anamorph genera, including Cylindrotrichum pro parte (i.e. Kylindria) but exclude Cyl. oligospermum, Cyl. hennebertii and Custingophora, which are not monophyletic with the Chaetosphaeriaceae. However, because all anamorphs differ predominantly in the structure of the phialides (which is sometimes difficult to observe) and slightly in conidial characters, in combination with the irregular occurrence of lateral phialides on the conidiophores, it is questionable whether these characters alone are sufficient for the delimitation of genera. They can be useful in combination with other characteristics of relevant anamorphs and teleomorphs. Because the only known links are to Chaetosphaeria, it might be reasonable to: (i) keep Chaetosphaeria as a single genus that would consist of several infrageneric taxa in accordance with grouping in the phylogenetic analysis, and amalgamate all anamorphs within a single anamorph genus corresponding to Chaetosphaeria, or (ii) to separate

the four natural groups of taxa recognized in *Chaeto-sphaeria*, corresponding to the four subclades in the phylogenetic analyses, which can be regarded as single genera. We should also consider several other dematiaceous hyphomycetes that were not included in the analysis and that share similar characteristics of conidiophores, position and structure of phialides and morphology of conidia with anamorphs of *Chaeto-sphaeria*, for instance *Chalarodes* McKenzie, *Cryptophiale* Pirozynski, *Menisporopsis* S. Hughes, *Menidochium* Castañeda, *Phaeostalagmus* W. Gams, *Thoze-tella* O. Kuntze or *Venustusynnema* Castañeda & W.B. Kendr. They may be related to the chaetosphaeria might be discovered later.

At the moment, it seems most appropriate to retain one genus, *Chaetosphaeria*, including *Melanopsammella* as its heterotypic generic synonym, and divide it into four natural groups of taxa as described above. Each group represents a certain pattern of variation. The distinction among these groups is a step towards the recognition of *Chaetosphaeria* as one or four closely related genera.

# Conclusions

From the study of *Chaetosphaeria* and its anamorphs, it is obvious that the diagnostic characters displayed by anamorphs are of major taxonomic relevance. It is important to study morphological and ontogenetic characters, particularly those of conidiogenous cells and conidia, because they help to illuminate the phylogenetic relationships and systematics of the teleomorph genus *Chaetosphaeria*. I assume that the anamorph genera associated with *Chaetosphaeria* do not represent well-separated and delimited taxa, but rather a long, continuous lineage of one genus with a great deal of variation.

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