

Neosartorya takakii, a new species from soil in Brazil

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Among the isolates from soil of grassland in Roraima State, Brazil, a new species of *Neosartorya*, *N. takakii* is described and illustrated. *Neosartorya takakii* differs from the other known species of the genus in having lenticular ascospores with two distinct equatorial crests and with roughly circularly arranged projections on the convex walls. A comparative SEM view of ascospores from six related *Neosartorya* species is also provided.

Key Words—*Aspergillus takakii*; Brazil; *Neosartorya takakii*; soil fungus.

In a survey of pathogenic and mycotoxin-producing fungi in Brazil that has continued since 1991, uncommon isolates of *Neosartorya* have been collected from Brazilian soil. One isolate, 98-BR-350, is characterized by production of lenticular ascospores with two distinct equatorial crests and roughly circular by arranged projections on the convex walls. The isolate proved to be sufficiently different from all described species of *Neosartorya* (Horie et al., 1992, 1995a, b; Kong, 1997; Kwon-Chung and Kim, 1974; Kozakiewicz, 1989; Malloch and Cain, 1972; Peterson, 1992; Raper and Fennell, 1965; Samson et al., 1990; Someya et al., 1999; Takada and Udagawa, 1985; Udagawa and Takada, 1985; Udagawa et al., 1991, 1993; Yaguchi et al., 1994).

The type specimen studied and living culture derived from the type are deposited at the Natural History Museum and Institute Chiba (CBM).

Neosartorya takakii Horie, Abliz & Fukushima, sp. nov. Figs. 1–6

Coloniae in agaro maltoso celeriter crescentes, dilute flavae vel laete flavae, granulares; cleistothecia abundantia; conidiogenesis limitata; reversum laete flavum.

Cleistothecia alba vel flavo-alba, globosa vel subglobosa, 230–530 μm diam, cum hyphis aeriis laxae intricatis circumdata; peridium tenue, membranaceum, ex cellulis angularibus 3–12.5 μm diam compositum. Asci octospori, globosi vel subglobosi vel ovoidei, 11–13(–14) \times 10–12.5 μm , evanescentes. Ascosporae hyalinae vel dilute flavo-brunneae, late lenticulares, praeter crista 4–5 \times 4–4.5 μm , duabus cristis aequatorialibus late disjunctis usque 1.5 μm latis praeditae; superficies convexae cum costatis annularibus et microtuberculis ornatae. Status anamorphus: *Aspergillus*

takakii.

Holotypus: CBM-FA-884, colonia exsiccata in cultura ex solo, Gaoiur pe Gubo Srerai Tepegriu, Roraima, in Brasilia, 21 Nov. 1998, a Y. Horie isolata et ea collectione fungorum Musei et Instituti Historiae Naturalis Chiba (CBM) conservata.

Etymology: named in memory of Prof. G. M. Campos Takaki, Universidade Catolica de Pernambuco, Recife, Pernambuco state, Brazil, an eminent myco-chemist.

Anamorphosis: *Aspergillus takakii* Horie, Abliz & Fukushima, st. anam. nov.

Capitula conidica radiantia. Conidiophora ex hyphis aeriis vel mycelio basali orientia; stipites hyalini vel dilute flavo-brunnei, usque 425 μm longi, ad medium 4–5 μm crassi, leves; vesiculae hemisphaericae vel ampulliformes, 8–17 μm diam. Aspergilla uniseriata; phialides hyalinae, 5–7 \times 1.5–3 μm . Conidia hyalina vel dilute griseo-viridia, globosa vel subglobosa, laevia, 2–3 μm diam.

Status teleomorphus: *Neosartorya takakii*.

Holotypus: CBM-FA-884, loc. cit.

Colonies on malt extract agar (MYA) spreading broadly, attaining a diam of 85 mm within 14 d at 25°C or within 7 d at 37°C, pale yellow (4A3, after Kornerup and Wanscher, 1978) to light yellow (4A4), with a thin, often submerged vegetative mycelium, granular in appearance due to the very abundant production of cleistothecia, loosely overgrown by aerial hyphae; conidiophores few in number; reverse light yellow (4A4 to 4A5).

Cleistothecia superficial, scattered, white to yellowish white, globose to subglobose, 230–530 μm in diam, surrounded by a loose covering of aerial hyphae. Cleistothecial peridium hyaline to pale yellowish brown,

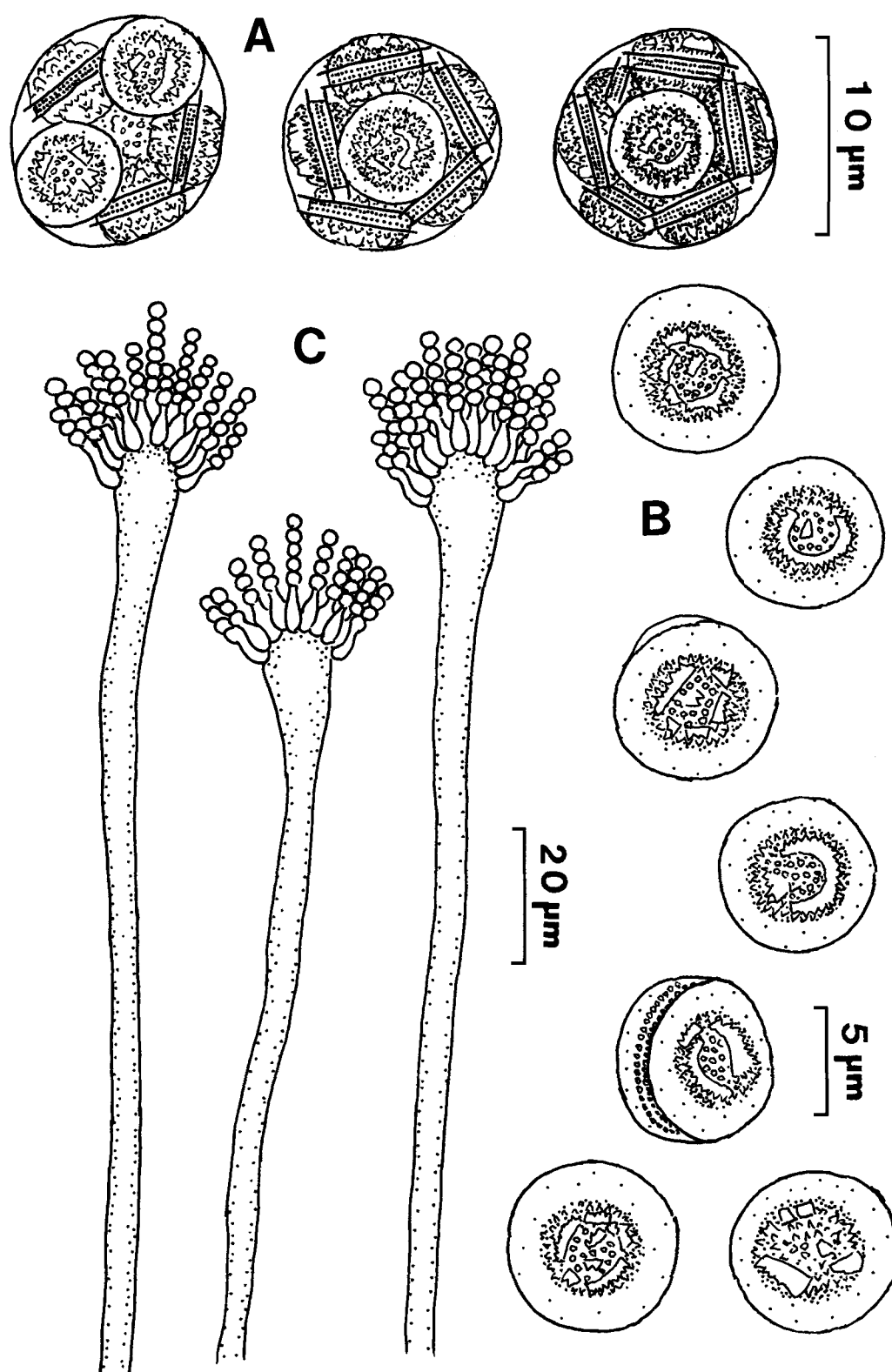
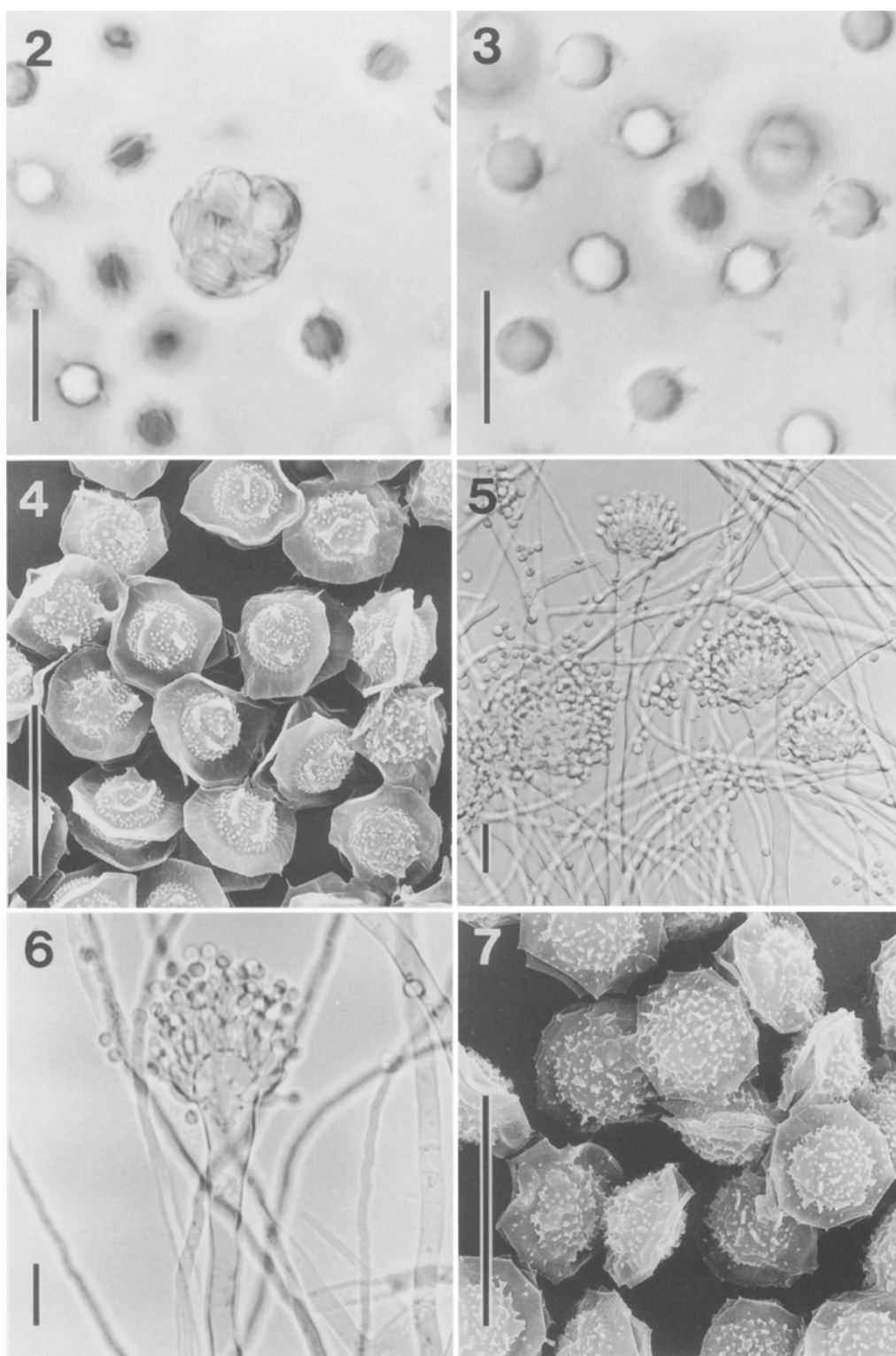
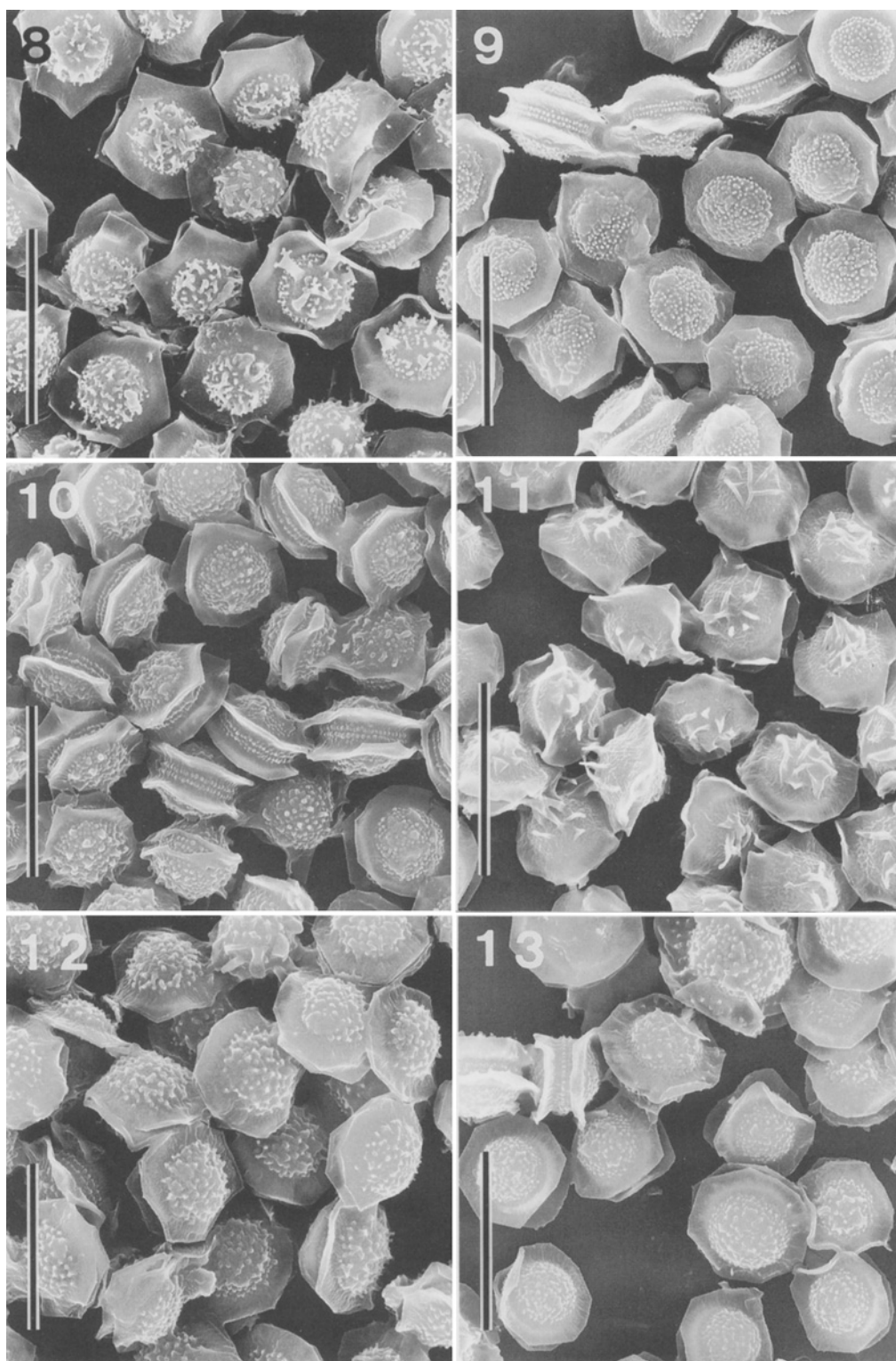


Fig. 1. *Neosartorya takakii*. A. Asci. B. Ascospores. C. Aspergilla.



Figs. 2–6. *Neosartorya takakii*. 2. Ascus. 3. Ascospores. 4. A SEM micrograph of ascospores. 5, 6, Aspergilli. Fig. 7. *Neosartorya aureola*. A SEM micrograph of ascospores. All scales: 10 μ m.



Figs. 8–13. SEM micrographs of *Neosartorya* ascospores. 8. *N. botucatensis*. 9. *N. glabra*. 10. *N. paulistensis*. 11. *N. pseudo-fischeri*. 12. *N. spinosa*. 13. *N. stramenia*. All scales: 10 μ m.

thin, membranaceous, consisting of angular, 3–12.5 μm diam cells. Asci 8-spored, globose or subglobose to ovoid, 11–13(–14) \times 10–12.5 μm , evanescent at maturity. Ascospores hyaline to pale yellowish brown, broadly lenticular, spore body 4–5 \times 4–4.5 μm , provided with two widely separated equatorial crests which are up to 1.5 μm wide and sometimes irregularly dissected in a stellate shape and with convex surfaces bearing roughly circularly arranged projections and microtuberculate ornamentation.

Specimen examined: CBM-FA-884 (holotype), a dried culture of an isolate from soil in a grassland, Gaoiur pe Gubo Srerai Tepegriu, Roraima state, Brazil, collected and developed in the Natural History Museum and Institute, Chiba, Japan, by Horie, 21. Nov. 1998 (isolate number 98-BR-350).

Mycelium composed of hyaline, branched, septate, smooth-walled hyphae. Conidial heads small, grayish green, radiate, 25–80 μm in diam. Conidiophores arising from aerial hyphae or the basal mycelium, hyaline to pale yellowish brown, smooth, up to 425 μm long, 4–5 μm wide at the middle; vesicles hyaline, hemispherical to flask-shaped, 8–17 μm in diam. Aspergilla uniseriate; phialides hyaline, 5–7 \times 1.5–3 μm , covering the upper half of the vesicle. Conidia hyaline to pale grayish green, globose to subglobose, smooth, 2–3 μm in diam.

Colonies on Czapek agar spreading broadly, attaining a diam of 80–85 mm in 14 d at 25°C, white to yellowish white (1A2), consisting of a thin mycelial felt, producing abundant cleistothecia in a dense layer on the mycelial felt; conidiophores few in number; reverse pale yellow (4A3) to light yellow (4A4).

Colonies on Czapek agar with 70% sucrose spreading broadly, attaining a diam of 70–80 mm in 14 d at 25°C, white to yellowish white (1A2), consisting of a thin mycelial felt; floccose in appearance; cleistothecia few in number; conidiogenesis abundant; reverse white to yellowish white (2A2).

The ascospores of this species is characterized by two widely separated equatorial crests and an ornamentation pattern of roughly circularly arranged projections and microtubercles on the convex surfaces. They are somewhat similar to those of *N. aureola* (Fennell & Raper) Malloch & Cain, *N. botucatensis* Horie, Miyaji & Nishimura, *N. glabra* (Fennell & Raper) Kozak., *N. paulistensis* Horie, Miyaji & Nishimura, *N. spinosa* (Raper & Fennell) Kozak., and *N. stramenia* (R. Novak & Raper) Malloch & Cain (Figs. 7–10, 12, 13), but the convex surfaces of ascospores of those species have only a simple pattern of tuberculate to spinose ornamentation. The ascospore walls of *N. pseudofischeri* S. W. Peterson are ornamented with raised flaps of tissue resembling triangular projections or long ridge lines (Fig. 11). Therefore, *N. pseudofischeri* ascospores are more similar to those of this species than the others, but the projections are not arranged in a roughly circular appearance.

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