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Discovery and Extrolite Production of Three New Species of *Talaromyces* Belonging to Sections *Helici* and *Purpurei* from Freshwater in Korea

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Abstract: Three novel fungal species, *Talaromyces gwangjuensis*, *T. koreana*, and *T. teleomorpha* were found in Korea during an investigation of fungi in freshwater. The new species are described here using morphological characters, a multi-gene phylogenetic analysis of the ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, *RPB2* regions, and extrolite data. *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* is characterized by restricted growth on CYA, YES, monoverticillate and biverticillate conidiophores, and globose smooth-walled conidia. *Talaromyces koreana* is characterized by fast growth on MEA, biverticillate conidiophores, or sometimes with additional branches and the production of acid on CREA. *Talaromyces teleomorpha* is characterized by producing creamish-white or yellow ascomata on OA and MEA, restricted growth on CREA, and no asexual morph observed in the culture. A phylogenetic analysis of the ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* sequences showed that the three new taxa form distinct monophyletic clades. Detailed descriptions, illustrations, and phylogenetic trees are provided.

Keywords: three new taxa; Trichocomaceae; morphology; phylogeny; taxonomy

1. Introduction

The genus *Talaromyces* was established by Benjamin (1955) [1] for a teleomorph of *Penicillium* with *Talaromyces vermiculatus* (=T. flavus) as the type species. These species are characterized by cleistothecial or gymnothecial ascomata, unitunicate eight-spored asci, and unicellular ascospores with or without equatorial crests. The anamorphs have predominantly biverticillate or rarely terverticillate conidiophores with acerose phialides and narrow collulum [2,3]. In 2011, Samson et al. [2] transferred all accepted species of Penicillium subgen. Biverticillium to Talaromyces on the basis of a two-gene phylogeny. Subsequently, Yilmaz et al. [3] studied the taxonomy of *Talaromyces* in detail using the polyphasic species concept. On the basis of multigene phylogeny, morphology, and physiology, Yilmaz et al. [3] placed 88 accepted species in seven well-defined sections, namely, Bacillispori, Helici, Islandici, Purpurei, Subinflati, Talaromyces, and Trachyspermi. However, the lists are rapidly increasing with many new *Talaromyces* species recently described from all over the world and added to sections Helici, Islandici, Purpurei, Subinflati, Talaromyces, and Trachyspermi [4–27]. To date, 171 species have been reported in the genus Talaromyces [27], of which only three species: Talaromyces angelicae, Talaromyces cnidii, and Talaromyces halophytorum were reported from Korea [28,29]. Recently, a new section Tenues was proposed [26]. *Talaromyces* contains species that play an important role in agriculture and biotechnology. *Talaromyces rugulosus* (Basionym: *Penicillum rugulosum*) produces β-rutinosidase and phosphatase [30,31], T. pinophilus (Basionym: Penicillium pinophilum) produces endoglucanase



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Copyright: © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). and cellulase [32], and *T. funiculosus* (Basionym: *Penicillium funiculosum*) produces cellulases [33]. *Talaromyces purpureogenus* can produce extracellular enzymes and red pigment and also produces mycotoxin such as rubratoxin A and B and luteoskyrin [34]. Additionally, red pigments produced in large amounts by *T. atroroseus* can be used as colorants in the food industry [35]. Furthermore, the ability to produce various important compounds makes them candidates for the biocontrol of soilborne fungal pathogens such as an antagonists of *T. flavus* against *Verticillium* spp., *Rhizoctonia solani*, and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* [36–40]. In addition, some species are medically important, such as *T. wortmannii*, which can produce compound C that was found to be an effective antimicrobial against *Propionibacterium acnes* and had anti-inflammatory properties and, thus, represents alternative treatments for antibiotic or anti-inflammatory therapy for acne [41]. *Talaromyces marneffei* (Basionym: *Penicillium marneffei*) causes a fatal mycosis in immunocompromised individuals [42,43].

Section *Helici* was proposed by Yilmaz et al. [3] with seven *Talaromyces* species divided into two clades: a main clade containing *T. helicus*, *T. boninensis*, and *T. varians* and a second clade containing *T. cinnabarinus*, *T. aerugineus*, *T. bohemicus*, and *T. ryukyuensis*. The *Talaromyces* species included in this section are characterized by producing biverticillate conidiophores occasionally consisting of solitary phialides with stipes generally pigmented, yellowish-brown, or dark green reversed on CYA; grown at 37 °C, and the absence of acid production on CREA [3]. Section *Helici* currently includes 13 species [27].

Section *Purpurei* was proposed by Stolk and Samson [44] to accommodate species that produce synnemata after two to three weeks of incubation, with the exception of *T. rademirici, T. purpureus,* and *T. ptychoconidium.* The species in this section generally do not grow or grow poorly on creatine sucrose agar (CREA), and grow restrictedly on Czapek yeast extract agar (CYA) and yeast extract sucrose agar (YES) and slightly faster on malt extract agar (MEA) [3]. Ten species were accepted in the section *Purpurei: T. cecidicola, T. chloroloma, T. coalescens, T. dendriticus, T. pseudostromaticus, T. pittii, T. purpureus, T. ptychoconidium, T. rademirici, and T. ramulosus* [3], but it currently contains 12 species [27].

Freshwater fungi are an ubiquitous and diverse group of organisms and play an important role in ecological systems [45]. Hawksworth [46] estimated that there are approximately 1.5 million fungal species on Earth. However, an updated estimate of the number of fungal species is between 2.2 and 3.8 million [47]. Of the ca. 150,000 known sepecies, only around 3000 have been reported from aquatic habitats [48], with more than 600 species of ascomycetes reported in freshwater [49]. Thus, a large number of species are still waiting to be discovered and described in freshwater habitats.

Up to now, only a few freshwater fungi, especially genus *Talaromyces*, have been reported in Korea. The purpose of this study was to expand the present knowledge of these fungal taxa in Korea. Here, we describe and illustrate three new *Talaromyces* species from freshwater habitats in Korea.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Sampling and Isolation

In January and May 2017, freshwater samples were collected from the Wonhyo Valley located at Mudeung Mt., Gwangju, and Jukrim Reservoir located in Yeosu, Korea. These samples were transported to the laboratory in sterile 50-mL conical tubes and stored at 4 °C pending examination. Before culture preparation, all samples were diluted with sterile distilled water to reduce the density and improve strain recovery. Briefly, each sample was shaken for 15 min at room temperature, and a 100- μ L aliquot of each sample was mixed with 9 mL of sterile distilled water. Then, serial dilutions of the mixture (from 10⁻¹ to 10⁻⁴) were made. A 100- μ L aliquot of each dilution was spread on potato dextrose agar (PDA: 39 g of potato dextrose agar in 1 L of deionized water; Becton, Dickinson, and Co., Sparks, MD, USA) supplemented with the antibiotic streptomycin (final concentration, 50 ppm; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA). The petri plates were incubated at 25 °C for 5–10 days. Pure isolates were obtained by selecting individual colonies of varied morphologies, transferring them to PDA plates, and subculturing until pure cultures

3 of 18

were obtained. Ex-type living cultures were deposited in the Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Fungarium, Chonnam National University (CNUFC), Gwangju, Korea. Dried cultures were deposited in the Herbarium Chonnam National University, Gwangju, Korea.

2.2. Morphology

The strains were three-point inoculated onto Czapek yeast autolysate agar (CYA), malt extract agar (MEA), yeast extract sucrose agar (YES), oatmeal agar (OA), dichloran 18% glycerol (DG18) agar, CYA supplemented with 5% NaCl (CYAS), and creatine sucrose agar (CREA). All petri dishes were incubated at 20, 25, 30, 35, 37, and 40 °C for 7 days. Medium preparation and inoculation were performed according to the methods reported by Yilmaz et al. [3]. Colony characters were recorded after 7 days. Lactic acid (60%) was used as the mount fluid, and 96% ethanol was used to remove excess conidia. The Olympus BX51 microscope with differential interference contrast optics (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) was used to obtain digital images. For scanning electron microscopy (SEM), the samples were performed as described previously by Nguyen et al. [50].

2.3. DNA Extraction, PCR, and Sequencing

The fungal isolates were cultured on PDA overlaid with cellophane at 25 °C for 5–7 days. Genomic DNA was extracted using the SolgTM Genomic DNA Preparation Kit (Solgent Co. Ltd., Daejeon, Korea). The ITS region was amplified using the primer pairs ITS 1 and ITS 4 [51]. The beta-tubulin (*BenA*) was amplified using the primer pairs T10 and Bt2b [52]. The calmodulin (*CaM*) gene was amplified using the primer pairs CMD5/CMD6 and CF1/CF4 [53,54]. To amplify the *RPB2* gene region, the primer pairs RPB2-5F and RPB2-7cR were used [55]. PCR amplification was performed according to the conditions described by Yilmaz et al. [3] and Houbraken and Samson [56]. The PCR products were purified with the Accuprep PCR Purification Kit (Bioneer Corp., Daejeon, Korea). Sequencing was performed using the same PCR primers and run on the ABI PRISM 3730XL Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA).

2.4. Molecular Analysis

Each generated sequence was checked for the presence of ambiguous bases and assembled using the Lasergene SeqMan program from DNASTAR, Inc. (Madison, WI, USA). Edited sequences were blasted against the NCBI GenBank nucleotide database (https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi; 2 January 2021) to search for the closest relatives. The sequences of all the accepted *Talaromyces* species were retrieved from GenBank. The sequences were aligned using MAFFT (https://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/server; 9 March 2021) [57], and the resulting alignment was trimmed using trimAl [58] and subsequently combined with MEGA 7 [59]. The data were converted from a FASTA format to nexus and phylip formats using the online tool Alignment Transformation Environment (https://sing.ei.uvigo.es/ALTER/; 9 March 2021) [60]. Phylogenetic reconstructions by maximum likelihood (ML) were carried out using RAxML-HPC2 on XSEDE on the online CIPRES Portal (https://www.phylo.org/portal2; 9 March 2021) with 1000 bootstrap replicates and the GTRGAMMA model of nucleotide substitution. A Bayesian inference analysis was performed with MrBayes 3.2.2 [61] using a Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm. The sample frequency was set to 100, and the first 25% of trees were removed as burn-in. The trees were visualized using FigTree v. 1.3.1 [62]. Support values were provided at the branches (ML bootstrap support (BS) and BI posterior probability (PP)). Talaromyces tenuis CBS 141840 was chosen as the outgroup in the sections Helici and *Purpurei* phylogenies. *Trichocoma paradoxa* CBS 788.83 was the outgroup for the combined phylogeny of the species from *Talaromyces*. The newly obtained sequences were deposited in the GenBank database under the accession numbers provided in Table 1.

GenBank A				ccession No.		
Taxon Name	Strain No. –	ITS	BenA	CaM	RPB2	Keterences
T. aerugineus	CBS 350.66 ^T	AY753346	KJ865736	KJ885285	JN121502	[3]
T. apiculatus	CBS 312.59 ^T	JN899375	KF741916	KF741950	KM023287	[3]
T. atricola	CBS 255.31 ^T	KF984859	KF984566	KF984719	KF984948	[3]
T. atroroseus	CBS 133442 ^T	KF114747	KF114789	KJ775418	KM023288	[3]
T. austrocalifornicus	CBS 644.95 ^T	JN899357	KJ865732	KJ885261	MN969147	[3,27]
T. bacillisporus	CBS 296.48 ^T	KM066182	AY753368	KJ885262	JF417425	[3]
T. bohemicus	CBS 545.86 ^T	JN899400	KJ865719	KJ885286	JN121532	[3]
T. boninensis	CBS 650.95 ^T	JN899356	KJ865721	KJ885263	KM023276	[3]
T. borbonicus	CBS 141340 T	MG827091	MG855687	MG855688	MG855689	[20]
T. brunneosporus	FMR 16566 ^T	LT962487	LT962483	LT962488	LT962485	[24]
T. cecidicola	CBS 101419 T	AY787844	FJ753295	KJ885287	KM023309	[3]
T. cinnabarinus	CBS 267.72 ^T	IN899376	AY753377	KJ885256	IN121477	[3]
T. cinnabarinus	CBS 357.72	-	KM066134	-	-	[3]
T. chlamydosporus	CBS 140635 T	KU866648	KU866836	KU866732	KU866992	[5]
T. chlorolomus	DAOM 241016 ^T	FJ160273	GU385736	KJ885265	KM023304	[3,27]
T. chlorolomus	DTO 180-F4	-	FJ753294	-	-	[3]
T. chlorolomus	DTO 182-A5	_	JX091597	-	-	[3]
T. cnidii	KACC 46617 ^T	KF183639	KF183641	KJ885266	KM023299	[3,28]
T. cinnabarinus	CBS 267.72 ^T	JN899376	AY753377	KJ885256	JN121477	[3]
T. cinnabarinus	CBS 357.72	-	KM066134	_	_	[3]
T. coalescens	CBS 103.83 ^T	JN899366	JX091390	KJ885267	KM023277	[3]
T. columbinus	NRRL 58811 ^T	KJ865739	KF196843	KJ885288	KM023270	[3]
T. dendriticus	CBS 660.80 T	JN899339	JX091391	KF741965	KM023286	[3]
T. dendriticus	DAOM 226674	-	FJ753293	-	-	[3]
T. dendriticus	DAOM 233861	_	FJ753294	_	_	[3]
T. derxii	CBS 412.89 ^T	JN899327	JX494306	KF741959	KM023282	[3,27]
T. diversiformis	CBS 141931 ^T	KX961215	KX961216	KX961259	KX961274	[11]
T. diversus	CBS 320.48 ^T	KJ865740	KJ865723	KJ885268	KM023285	[3]
T. duclauxii	CBS 322.48 ^T	JN899342	JX091384	KF741955	JN121491	[3]
T. emodensis	CBS 100536 ^T	JN899337	KJ865724	KJ885269	JF417445	[27]
T. erythromellis	CBS 644.80 ^T	JN899383	HQ156945	KJ885270	KM023290	[3]
T. euchlorocarpius	DTO 176-I3 ^T	AB176617	KJ865733	KJ885271	KM023303	[3]
T. flavus	CBS 310.38 ^T	JN899360	JX494302	KF741949	JF417426	[3]
T. fusiformis	CBS 140637 ^T	KU866656	KU866843	KU866740	KU867000	[5]
T. georgiensis	DI16-145 ^T	LT558967	LT559084	-	LT795606	[12]
T. gwangjuensis	CNUFC WT19-1 T	MK766233	MZ318448	-	MK912174	This study
T oznanojuensis	CNUEC WT19-2	MK766234	MZ318449	_	MK912175	This study
T. helicus	CBS 335.48 ^T	IN899359	KI865725	KI885289	KM023273	[3]
T. helicus	CBS 134.67	_	KM066133	_	_	[3]
T. iowaense	NRRL 66822 ^T	MH281565	MH282578	MH282579	MH282577	[17]
T. islandicus	CBS 338.48 ^T	KF984885	KF984655	KF984780	KF985018	[3]
T. korena	CNUFC YJW2-13	MZ315100	MZ318450	MZ332529	MZ332533	This study
T korena	CNUEC YIW2-14	MZ315101	MZ318451	MZ332530	MZ332534	This study
T mimosinus	CBS 659 80 T	INI899338	KI865726	KI885272	MN969149	[3 27]
T minioluteus	CBS 642 68 ^T	IN899346	MN969409	KI885273	IF417443	[3]
T nalmae	CBS 442 88 ^T	IN899396	HO156947	KI885291	KM023300	[3]
T niceus	CBS 361 48 ^T	KF984792	KF984668	KF984680	KF984899	[3]
T. niomentosus	CBS 142805 ^T	MF278330	LT855562	LT855565	LT855568	[15]
T nittii	CBS 139 84 ^T	IN899325	KI865728	KI885275	KM023297	[3]
T. proteoluticus	CBS 303 67 ^T	IN899387	KI865729	KI885276	KM023301	[3]
T. nseudostromaticus	CBS 470 70 ^T	IN899371	HO156950	KI885277	KM023298	[3]
T. ntuchoconidius	DAOM 241017 T	FI160266	GU385733	IX140701	KM023278	[3 27]
T. ptychoconidius	DTO 180-E9	-	GU385734	-	-	[3]

Table 1. Accession numbers for the fungal strains used for the phylogenetic analysis.

-		GenBank Accession No.					
Taxon Name	Strain No. –	ITS	BenA	CaM	RPB2	References	
T. ptychoconidius	DTO 180-F1	_	GU385735	-	_	[3]	
T. purpureogenus	CBS 286.36 T	JN899372	JX315639	KF741947	JX315709	[3,27]	
T. purpureus	CBS 475.71 ^T	JN899328	GU385739	KJ885292	JN121522	[3]	
T. rademirici	CBS 140.84 T	JN899386	KJ865734		KM023302	[3]	
T. radicus	CBS 100489 ^T	KF984878	KF984599	KF984773	KF985013	[3]	
T. ramulosus	DAOM 241660 ^T	EU795706	FJ753290	JX140711	KM023281	[3]	
T. ramulosus	DTO 182-A6	_	JX091631	-	-	[3]	
T. ramulosus	DTO 181-E3	-	JX091626	-	-	[3]	
T. ramulosus	DTO 182-A3	-	JX091630	-	-	[3]	
T. reverso-olivaceus	CBS 140672 ^T	KU866646	KU866834	KU866730	KU866990	[5]	
T. rotundus	CBS 369.48 ^T	JN899353	KJ865730	KJ885278	KM023275	[3]	
T. rugulosus	CBS 371.48 ^T	KF984834	KF984575	KF984702	KF984925	[3]	
T. ryukyuensis	NHL 2917 ^T	AB176628	-	-	-	[3]	
T. stipitatus	CBS 375.48 ^T	JN899348	KM111288	KF741957	KM023280	[3]	
T. subinflatus	CBS 652.95 ^T	JN899397	MK450890	KJ885280	KM023308	[3,27]	
T. tabacinus	NRRL 66727 ^T	MG182613	MG182627	MG182606	MG182620	[17]	
T. tardifaciens	CBS 250.94 T	JN899361	KF984560	KF984682	KF984908	[27]	
T. teleomorpha	CNUFC YJW2-5 ^T	MZ315102	MZ318452	MZ332531	MZ332535	This study	
T. teleomorpha	CNUFC YJW2-6	MZ315103	MZ318453	MZ332532	MZ332536	This study	
T. tenuis	CBS 141840 ^T	MN864275	MN863344	MN863321	MN863333	[26]	
T. trachyspermus	CBS 373.48 ^T	JN899354	KF114803	KJ885281	JF417432	[3]	
T. tratensis	CBS 133146 ^T	KF984891	KF984559	KF984690	KF984911	[3]	
T. ucrainicus	CBS 162.67 ^T	JN899394	KF114771	KJ885282	KM023289	[3]	
T. unicus	CBS 100535 ^T	JN899336	KJ865735	KJ885283	MN969150	[27]	
T. varians	CBS 386.48 ^T	JN899368	KJ865731	KJ885284	KM023274	[3]	
T. verruculosus	NRRL 1050 ^T	KF741994	KF741928	KF741944	KM023306	[27]	
T. viridulus	CBS 252.87 ^T	JN899314	JX091385	KF741943	JF417422	[3]	
Trichocoma paradoxa	CBS 788.83 ^T	JN899398	KF984556	KF984670	JN121550	[3]	

Table 1. Cont.

CBS: Culture collection of the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute, The Netherlands. CNUFC: Chonnam National University Fungal Collection, Gwangju, South Korea; DAOM: Agriculture Canada and Agri-Food Canada Culture Collection, Ottawa, ON, Canada; DTO: Internal Culture Collection of the CBS-Fungal Biodiversity Centre; FMR: Facultat de Medicina i Ciencies de la Salut, Reus, Spain; KACC: Korean Agricultural Culture Collection, Republic of Korea; NRRL: Agricultural Research Service Culture Collection, Peoria, IL, USA; ^T: ex-type strain.

2.5. Extrolite Analysis

Extrolites were extracted from *Talaromyces* strains after growing on CYA, YES, and MEA for 7–10 days at 25 °C. The extracts were prepared and analyzed as previously described by Frisvad and Thrane [63], Nielsen et al. [64], and Houbraken et al. [65].

3. Results

3.1. Phylogenetic Analysis

Phylogenetic relationships within *Talaromyces* were studied using a concatenated dataset of four loci (ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2*) (Figure 1). The multigene analysis contained 67 taxa, including *Trichocoma paradoxa* CBS 788.83 as the outgroup taxon. The concatenated alignment consisted of 2407 characters (including alignment gaps): 425, 443, 687, and 852 characters used in the ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2*, respectively. Eight main lineages are present within *Talaromyces*, which agrees with the sectional classification by Yilmaz et al. [3] and Sun et al. [26]. In the phylogenetic analysis, a small clade containing *T. brunneosporus* highlighted by asterisk could not be assigned to any known sections (Figure 1). *Talaromyces gwangjuensis*, *T. koreana*, and *T. teleomorpha* belong to sections *Purpurei* and *Helici*, according to our multigene analysis (Figure 1). In section *Purpurei*, *T. gwangjuensis* clustered close to but separated from *T. rademirici* in the single (*BenA*, *RPB2*, and ITS) and combined phylogenies (Figure 2 and Figures S1–S3). *Talaromyces teleomorpha* is close to *T. helicus* in *BenA*, ITS, and combined phylogenies (Figure 3, Figures S4 and S5) but placed among

T. helicus, *T. koreana*, *T. reverso-olivaceus*, and *T. boninensis* in the *CaM* and *RPB2* phylogenies (Figures S6 and S7). *Talaromyces koreana* was found to be related to *T. reverso-olivaceus* and *T. boninensis* in *BenA*, *CaM*, *RPB2*, and the combined phylogenies (Figure 3, Figures S4, S6, and S7). In the ITS phylogenetic analysis, *T. koreana* was close to only *T. boninensis* (Figure S5).



Figure 1. Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the combined ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* sequences data of *Talaromyces*. The red asterisk represents a separate lineage which is not assigned yet. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Trichocoma paradoxa* CBS 788.83 was the group was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. ^T = ex-type.



Figure 2. Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the combined ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* sequences data for species classified in *Talaromyces* section *Purpurei*. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces tenuis* CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. ^T = ex-type.



Figure 3. Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on combined the ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* sequence data for the species classified in *Talaromyces* section *Helici*. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces tenuis* CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. ^T = ex-type.

3.2. Taxonomy

Talaromyces gwangjuensis Hyang B. Lee & T.T.T. Nguyen sp. nov. Index Fungorum: IF554801 (Figure 4 and Table 2).



Figure 4. Morphology of *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* CNUFC WT19-1. (**A**,**E**) Colonies on Czapeck yeast autolysate agar (CYA). (**B**,**F**) Malt extract agar (MEA). (**C**) Yeast extract sucrose agar (YES). (**D**) Oatmeal agar (OA). (**G**) Dichloran 18% glycerol agar (DG 18). (**H**) Creatine sucrose agar (CREA). ((**A**–**D**,**G**,**H**) Obverse view and (**E**,**F**) reverse view). (**I**–**L**,**N**–**Q**) Conidiophores. (**M**,**R**) Conidia. ((**I**–**M**) LM and (**N**–**R**) SEM). Scale bars: (**I**–**M**) = 20 μm, (**N**–**Q**) = 10 μm, and (**R**) = 5 μm.

Table 2. Morphological characteristics of *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* CNUFC WT19-1 compared with those of the reference strain *Talaromyces rademirici*.

Characteristics	CNUFC WT19-1 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces rademirici ^a
	<1 mm on CYA	5–6 mm on CYA
	3–5 mm on YES	5–6 mm on YES
Size after 7 days at 25 °C (diameter)	13–15 mm on MEA	14–16 mm on MEA
	6–7 mm on OA	9–10 mm on OA
	No growth on CREA	No growth on CREA

Characteristics	CNUFC WT19-1 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces rademirici ^a	
Size after 7 days at 37 °C on CYA (diameter)	No growth	3 mm	
Conidiophores	Biverticillate and monoverticillate, 39–174 \times 1.5–3 μm	Biverticillate and monoverticillate; stipes smooth-walled, 25–95 × 1.5–2.5 μm; branches 10–15 μm	
Metulae	Two to six, 6–10 \times 1.5–2.5 μm	Two to five, divergent, 7–11 \times 2–2.5 μm	
Phialides	Acerose, three to eight per metula, 5.5–10 \times 1.5–2 μm	Acerose, two to six per metula, 7.5–11.5 \times 1.5–3 μm	
Conidia	Globose, 1.5–2.0 µm, smooth-walled	Ellipsoidal, 2.5–4 \times 1.5–2.5 μm , smooth	
Ascomata	Absent	Absent	
	^a From the description by Yilmaz et al. [3].		

Table 2. Cont.

Etymology: Referring to the name of the site where freshwater sample was obtained. Type specimen: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Wonhyo Valley located at Mudeung Mt., Gwangju (35°9'1.18" N, 126°59'24.62" E) from a freshwater sample, 3 January 2017, H.B. Lee (holotype CNUFC HT19191; ex-type culture CNUFC WT19-1).

Colony diam, 7 d (mm): CYA 25 °C < 1 mm, CYA 20 °C no growth; CYA 30 °C no growth; CYA 37 °C no growth; MEA 25 °C 13–15; YES 25 °C 3–5; OA 25 °C 6–7; CREA 25 °C no growth; CYAS 25 °C no growth; DG18 25 °C 2–4.

Colony characters: CYA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies low, plane; margins low, entire (<1 mm); mycelia white; sporulation absent; soluble pigments absent; exudates absent; reverse white. MEA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies strong raised at the center; sporulating central area is dull green, yellow towards the edge; exudate absent; soluble pigments absent; reverse brown-orange center, light yellow near margin. YES 25 °C, 7 d: Sporulation absent, mycelium white; exudate absent; soluble pigments absent; reverse white. OA 25 °C, 7 d: Colony surface velutinous; dull green when sporulating; reverse white; soluble pigments absent; exudates absent. CREA 25 °C, 7 d: No growth. DG18 25 °C, 7 d: No sporulation, mycelium white.

Micromorphology: Sclerotia absent. Conidiophores 39–174 \times 1.5–3 µm, biverticillate and monoverticillate. Metulae 2–6, 6–10 \times 1.5–2.5 µm. Phialides acerose-shaped, 3–8 per metula, 5.5–10 \times 1.5–2 µm. Conidia globose, 1.5–2.0 µm, smooth-walled, conidial chains. Ascomata not observed.

Extrolites: *T. gwangjuensis* (the ex-type strain) produced austin, austinol (and other austins), mitorubrin, mitorubrinol, mitorubrinol acetate, mitorubrinic acid, and a purpactin.

Notes: *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* nested together with *T. rademirici*. However, *T. gwangjuensis* differs morphologically from *T. rademirici*, as it forms smaller colonies on Czapek yeast autolysate agar and yeast extract sucrose agar at 25 °C, and the number of phialides per metula and metulae are larger than those of *T. rademirici*. Furthermore, *T. gwangjuensis* produces globose conidia in contrast with the ellipsoid conidia of *T. rademirici*. *Talaromyces rademirici* grew at 37 °C, whereas *T. gwangjuensis* did not.

Additional material examined: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Wonhyo Valley located at Mudeung Mt., Gwangju (35°9′1.18″ N, 126°59′24.62″ E) from a freshwater sample, 4 January 2017, H.B. Lee (culture CNUFC WT19-2).

Talaromyces koreana Hyang B. Lee sp. nov.

Index Fungorum: IF554802 (Figure 5 and Table 3).

Etymology: Referring to the country from which the species was first isolated (Korea).

Type specimen: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Jukrim reservoir located in Yeosu (34°45′37.72″ N, 127°37′43.46″ E) from a freshwater sample, 26 May 2017, H.B. Lee (CNUFC HT19213 holotype; ex-type culture CNUFC YJW2-13).

Colony diam, 7 d (mm): CYA 25 °C 25–28, CYA 20 °C 15–16, CYA 30 °C 28–31; CYA 37 °C 17–19; MEA 25 °C 41–45; YES 25 °C 21–24; OA 25 °C 36–39; CREA 25 °C 15–18; CYAS 25 °C no growth; DG18 25 °C no growth.



Figure 5. Morphology of *Talaromyces koreana* CNUFC YJW2-13. (**A**,**E**) Colonies on Czapek yeast autolysate agar (CYA). (**B**,**F**) Malt extract agar (MEA). (**C**) Yeast extract sucrose agar (YES). (**D**) Oatmeal agar (OA). (**G**) Dichloran 18% glycerol agar (DG18). (**H**) Creatine sucrose agar (CREA). ((**A**–**D**,**G**,**H**) Obverse view and (**E**,**F**) reverse view). (**I**–**L**,**N**–**Q**) Conidiophores. (**M**,**R**) Conidia. ((**I**–**M**) LM and (**N**–**R**) SEM). Scale bars: (**I**) = 100 μ m, (**J**–**L**) = 20 μ m, (**M**,**Q**) = 10 μ m, (**N**–**P**) = 25 μ m, and (**R**) = 2 μ m.

Table 3. Morphological characteristics of Talaromyces koreana CNUFC YJW2-13 compared with those of the reference strains
Talaromyces boninensis and Talaromyces reverso-olivaceus.

Characteristics	CNUFC YJW2-13 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces boninensis ^a	Talaromyces reverso-olivaceus ^b
	25–28 mm on CYA	28 mm on CYA	19–23 mm on CYA
	21-24 mm on YES	NI	25–26 mm on YES
Size after 7 days at 25 °C (diameter)	41-45 mm on MEA	30 mm on MEA	34–37 mm on MEA
	36–39 mm on OA	32 mm on OA	33–36 mm on OA
	15–18 mm CREA	NI	No growth on CREA

Characteristics	CNUFC YJW2-13 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces boninensis ^a	Talaromyces reverso-olivaceus ^b
Size after 7 days at 37 $^\circ C$	17–19 mm on CYA	NI	18-20 mm on CYA
Conidiophores	Biverticillate, sometimes with additional branches, stipes smooth, 15–194 \times 2–4 μ m, branches 6–17 \times 2–3 μ m	Biverticillate; stipes finely rough, 25–260 \times 2.5–4 μm	Biverticillate, sometimes with extra subterminal branches; stipes smooth, 50–100 \times 2.5–4 μ m, branches 12–15 \times 2–3 μ m
Metulae	Two to seven, 7.5–16 × 2–3 μm	Four to ten, 10–16(–20) × 2.5–3(–3.5) μm	Three to five, 10–13 \times 3–4 μm
Phialides	Acerose, two to seven per metula, 5.5–15 \times 2–3 μm	Acerose, two to six per metula, 10–15 \times 2–3.5 μm	Acerose, three to five per metula, 10–12(–14) × 2.5–3 μm
Conidia	Ellipsoidal to fusiform, finely roughed, 2–3.5 \times 1.5–2.5 μm	Ellipsoidal to fusiform, sometimes globose, smooth, $2-4 \times 1.5-2.5 \ \mu m$	Ellipsoidal to fusiform, finely roughed, 2.5–4.5 \times 2.5–3 μm
Ascomata	Absent	Grayish green, globose to subglobose, 280–550 × 240–480 μm	Absent

Table 3. Cont.

^a From the description by Yilmaz et al. [3]. ^b From the description by Chen et al. [5]. NI: No information.

Colony characters: CYA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies sulcate, raised at the center; margins entire, mycelia slightly murky white; texture floccose; reverse greyish green at the center fading into ivory. MEA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies low, plane; mycelia white; reverse beige. YES 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies irregularly deep sulcate, raised at the center; margins low, plane, entire (2.5–3 mm); mycelia white; texture floccose; reverse deep olive green. OA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies low, plane, entire (2.5–3 mm); mycelia white; texture floccose; reverse deep olive green. OA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies low, plane; margins plane, entire (2.5–3 mm); mycelia white; texture velvety; reverse ivory to white. CREA 25 °C, 7 d: Acid production.

Micromorphology: Sclerotia absent. Conidiophores biverticillate, sometimes with additional branches; stipes smooth, 15–194 × 2–4 μ m, branches 6–17 × 2–3 μ m. Metulae acerose, two to seven, 7.5–16 × 2–3 μ m. Phialides acerose, two to seven per metula, 5.5–15 × 2–3 μ m. Conidia ellipsoidal to fusiform, finely roughed, 2–3.5 × 1.5–2.5 μ m. Ascomata not observed.

Extrolites: Cycloleucomelone, gregatin A, and purpactin A were detected in the ex-type strain of *T. koreana*.

Notes: *Talaromyces koreana* belongs to section *Helici* and is phylogenetically related to *T. boninensis* and *T. reverso-olivaceus*. *Talaromyces koreana* differs from *T. boninensis* and *T. reverso-olivaceus* by having a higher number of phialides per metula. *Talaromyces koreana* produces smaller conidia than those of *T. boninensis* and *T. reverso-olivaceus*. The maximum colony diameter reported for the species of *T. boninensis* and *T. reverso-olivaceus* are 30 and 34–37 mm when cultivated on MEA at 25 °C in 7 days, while *T. koreana* is 41–45 mm.

Material examined: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Jukrim reservoir located in Yeosu (34°45′37.72″ N, 127°37′43.46″ E) from a freshwater sample, 27 May 2017, H.B. Lee (culture CNUFC YJW2-14).

Talaromyces teleomorpha Hyang B. Lee, Frisvad, P.M. Kirk, H.J. Lim & T.T.T. Nguyen sp. nov.

Index Fungorum: IF554803 (Figure 6 and Table 4).

Etymology: Referring to the teleomorphic stage.

Type specimen: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Jukrim reservoir located in Yeosu (34°45′37.72″ N, 127°37′43.46″ E) from a freshwater sample, 26 May 2017, H.B. Lee (CNUFC HT19251 holotype; ex-type culture: CNUFC YJW2-5).

Colony diam, 7 d (mm): CYA 25 °C 26–29; CYA 20 °C 15–16; CYA 30 °C 34–36; CYA 37 °C 15–20; MEA 25 °C 45–48; YES 25 °C 29–33; OA 25 °C 32–34; CREA 25 °C 1–3; CYAS 25 °C no growth; DG18 25 °C no growth.



Figure 6. Morphology of *Talaromyces teleomorpha* CNUFC YJW2-5. (**A**,**E**) Colonies on Czapek yeast autolysate agar (CYA). (**B**,**F**) Malt extract agar (MEA). (**C**) Yeast extract sucrose agar (YES). (**D**) Oatmeal agar (OA). (**G**) Dichloran 18% glycerol agar (DG18). (**H**) Creatine sucrose agar (CREA). ((**A**–**D**,**G**,**H**) Obverse view and (**E**,**F**) reverse view). (**I**,**J**) Ascomata. (**K**–**P**) Asci and ascospores. ((**I**,**J**) Stereomicroscope, (**K**–**M**) LM and (**N**–**P**) SEM). Scale bars: (**I**,**J**) = 1 mm, (**K**–**M**) = 10 µm, and (**N**–**P**) = 5 µm.

Table 4. Morphological characteristics of Talaromyces teleomorpha CNUFC YJW2-5 compared with those of the refere	ence
strain Talaromyces helicus.	

Characteristics	CNUFC YJW2-5 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces helicus ^a
	26–29 mm on CYA	13–23 mm on CYA
	29–33 mm on YES	14–22 mm on YES
Size after 7 days at 25 $^\circ C$ (diameter)	45–48 mm on MEA	25–33 mm on MEA
	32–34 mm on OA	23–35 mm on OA
	1–3 on CREA	No growth on CREA
Size after 7 days at 37 °C (diameter)	15–20 mm on CYA	10–18 mm on CYA

Characteristics	CNUFC YJW2-5 Isolated in This Study	Talaromyces helicus ^a
Conidiophores	Not observed	Mono- to biverticillate, stipes smooth walled, 30–60(–80) × 2–2.5 μm
Metulae	Not observed	Two to five, 12–15 \times 2–2.5 μm
Phialides	Not observed	Acerose, two to four per metula, 8.5 – $12(-16) \times 2.5$ – $3 \ \mu m$
Conidia	Not observed	Globose to subglobose, smooth, 2.5–3.5(–4.5) \times 2.2–3.5 μm
Ascomata	Creamish-white to yellow to reddish, globose to subglobose, 200–800 μm	Yellow, pastel yellow and creamish-white, globose to subglobose, 100–300 µm
Asci	Ellipsoidal, globose to subglobose, (5.5–)6.5–9 \times (4.5–)6–7 μm	$69 imes4.56\ \mu\text{m}$
Ascospores	Ellipsoidal, smooth, 3–4 \times 2–3 μm	Ellipsoidal, smooth (some with minute spines), 2.5–4 \times 2–3 μm

Table 4. Cont.

^a From the description by Yilmaz et al. [3].

Colony characters: CYA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies raised at the center, slightly sulcate; margins low, plane, entire (3 mm); mycelia white to light yellow; reverse ivory to light yellow, slightly sunken at the center. MEA 25 °C, 7 d: colonies low, plane; mycelia white to light yellow, hyaline; reverse light orange at the center. YES 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies raised at the center, sulcate; margins low; mycelia white; reverse pale orange. OA 25 °C, 7 d: Colonies low, plane; mycelia white to light yellow, hyaline, smooth or rough, studded. CREA 25 °C, 7 d: Acid production absent.

Micromorphology: Ascomata maturing within 1 week on OA and MEA at 20–35 °C, abundant, creamish-white to yellow to reddish after long time, usually globose to sub-globose, 200–800 μ m. Asci ellipsoidal, globose to subglobose, (5.5–)6.5–9 × (4.5–)6–7 μ m. Ascospores ellipsoidal, smooth, 3–4 × 2–3 μ m.

Notes: *Talaromyces teleomorpha* can be distinguished easily from the closely related species *T. helicus* by growing rapidly on CYA, YES, and MEA at 25 °C in 7 days. Ascomata size of *T. helicus* are smaller than in *T. teleomorpha*. *Talaromyces helicus* does not grow on CREA, whereas *T. teleomorpha* can grow on this medium. In addition, *T. teleomorpha* does not produce the asexual morph, which is present in *T. helicus*.

Extrolites: *Talaromyces teleomorpha* produced helicusins formerly found in *Talaromyces helicus*.

Material examined: REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Jeonnam Province, Jukrim reservoir located in Yeosu (34°45′37.72″ N, 127°37′43.46″ E) from a freshwater sample, 27 May 2017, H.B. Lee (Culture CNUFC YJW2-6).

4. Discussion

During a survey of fungi from a freshwater niche in Korea, three novel species were identified, namely *Talaromyces gwangjuensis*, *T. koreana*, and *T. teleomorpha*.

In our phylogenetic analysis, *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* was classified in section *Purpurei*. This species is closely related to *T. rademirici*, which also has both monoverticillate and biverticillate conidiophores and do not grow on CREA. However, *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* has more restricted colonies on YES and CYA and larger numbers of metulae and phialides. Growth on CYA at 37 °C and the conidial shape and size on MEA at 25 °C can be easily used to distinguish between *T. gwangjuensis* and *T. rademirici*. *Talaromyces rademirici* grows faster on CYA at all temperatures (CYA at 25 °C, 5–6; CYA at 30 °C, 5–7; CYA at 37 °C, 3), whereas *Talaromyces gwangjuensis* was unable to grow on CYA at 37 °C. Some species in this section have been reported to not grow on CYA at 37 °C, including *T. pittii* and *T. purpureus* [3]; however, *T. pittii* and *T. purpureus* produce ellipsoidal and subglobose to ellipsoidal conidia compared with *T. gwangjuensis* that produces globose conidia.

Talaromyces koreana and *T. teleomorpha* belong to the section *Helici*, which was established by Yilmaz et al. [3]. The species in the section was not found to produce acid on CREA medium [3]. However, recent studies showed that *T. georgiensis* and *T. borbonicus* could produce acid on the medium [12,20]. In the present study, *T. koreana* was also found to produce acid on the medium. The results suggest that the ability to produce acid on CREA may not usually a key character to distinguish this section. It is a common character for the species in the section *Helici* to be able to grow at 37 °C [3]. Our results are the same as previous studies [3]. Interestingly, we found that *T. koreana* could grow at 40 °C on MEA media (10–13 mm after 7 days), while not on other media. Our findings showed that the medium composition might influence the maximum growth of fungi.

Talaromyces teleomorpha is closely related to *T. helicus*. However, *T. helicus* produces both asexual and sexual morphs, whereas the asexual morph is not observed in *T. teleomorpha* [3]. Especially, *T. teleomorpha* can grow on CREA, while *T. helicus* is unable to grow on this medium [3].

Although ITS is the barcoding marker for fungi [66], this locus is not sufficient to differentiate all *Talaromyces* species. Yilmaz et al. [3] proposed using *BenA* as a secondary molecular marker. In this study, *T. gwangjuensis*, *T. koreana*, and *T. teleomorpha* could be separated via each single gene phylogram. Recently, *T. brunneosporus* was described as a new species discovered from honey in Spain [24]. It was assigned to section *Purpurei* using the ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* concatenated dataset. The comparison of ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2* sequences deposited in GenBank indicated that this species could not be assigned to any known section based on our phylogenetic analyses (Figure 1). In each single gene phylogeny (ITS, *BenA*, *CaM*, and *RPB2*), *T. brunneosporus* also formed a separate lineage (data not shown). More strains are essential to confirm the taxonomic position of *T. brunneosporus*.

Some members from the genus *Talaromyces* are of great interest to the biotechnology industry in medial and food mycology because of their ability to produce a wide range of metabolites [3]. The species of section Purpurei produce various extrolite profiles. For example, T. cecidicola produces apiculides, pentacecilides, and thailandolides. Talaromyces coalescens, T. dendriticus, and T. purpurogenus share productions of penicillides, purpactins, and vermixocins. On the other hand, T. purpurogenus and T. pseudostromaticus produce the extrolite mitorubin. Some Talaromyces species produce mycotoxins such as botryodiplodin by T. coalescens, rugulovasine and luteoskyrin by T. purpurogenus, rubratoxins by T. purpurogenus and T. dendriticus, and secalonic acids D and F by T. pseudostromaticus. Talaromyces gwangjuensis, described in this study, produces austin, austinol, mitorubrin, mitorubrinol, mitorubrinol acetate, mitorubrinic acid, and a purpactin without any production of mycotoxins. Some secondary metabolites were found in the section *Helici*, such as alternariol, bacillisporin, and helicusins produced by T. helicus [3,67]. Talaromyces reverso-olivaceus produced rugulovasine A [5], while talaroderxines is produced by *T. boninensis* [3]. In this study, T. koreana produced cycloleucomelone, gregatin A, and purpactin A. Talaromyces teleomorpha also produced helicusins, as described by Yoshida et al. [67].

Talaromyces species are geographically distributed in many kinds of substrates. The species of section *Helici* have been reported to be isolated from soil, cotton yarn, debris, clinical sources, indoor environments, and biomass of *Arundo donax* [3,5,12,15,20]. The species of section *Purpurei* have been reported to be isolated from the air, wasp insect galls, *Eucalyptus, Protea repens* infructescence, and other substrates such as apples [3,17,68–71]. In this study, we isolated three novel species from freshwater. As far as we know, only species belonging to section *Talaromyces* were reported from water [22,72–74]. It is interesting to note that *Talaromyces gwangjuensis, T. koreana*, and *T. teleomorpha* were the first species in the sections *Purpurei* and *Helici* isolated from freshwater. Our studies expanded our knowledge on the substrates where *Talaromyces* species can occur. Further studies are needed for a better understanding of the ecological roles of these species.

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online at https://www.mdpi.com/article/ 10.3390/jof7090722/s1: Figure S1: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the BenA sequence data for species classified in Talaromyces section Purpurei. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces* tenuis CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S2: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the *RPB2* sequence data for species classified in *Talaromyces* section *Purpurei*. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces tenuis* CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S3: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the ITS sequence data for species classified in Talaromyces section Purpurei. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces tenuis* CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S4: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the BenA sequences data for species classified in *Talaromyces* section *Helici*. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. Talaromyces tenuis CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S5: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the ITS sequences data for species classified in Talaromyces section Helici. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. Talaromyces tenuis CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S6: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the CaM sequence data for species classified in Talaromyces section Helici. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces* tenuis CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type. Figure S7: Phylogram generated from the Maximum Likelihood (RAxML) analysis based on the RPB2 sequence data for species classified in Talaromyces section Helici. The branches with values = 100% ML BS and 1 PP are highlighted by thickened branches. The branches with values \geq 70% ML BS and \geq 0.95 PP indicated above or below branches. *Talaromyces tenuis* CBS 141840 was used as the outgroup. The newly generated sequences are indicated in blue. T = ex-type.

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