

***Podospora curvicolla* (G. Winter) Niessl – AEB 1353 (= PDD 120020)**

Species Fungorum current name: *Pseudoechria curvicolla* (G. Winter) Y. Marín, A.N. Mill. & Stchigel

Collection site: Pororari River Track just N. of Pancake Rocks, S. Island, New Zealand

Collection date: 5 April 1988

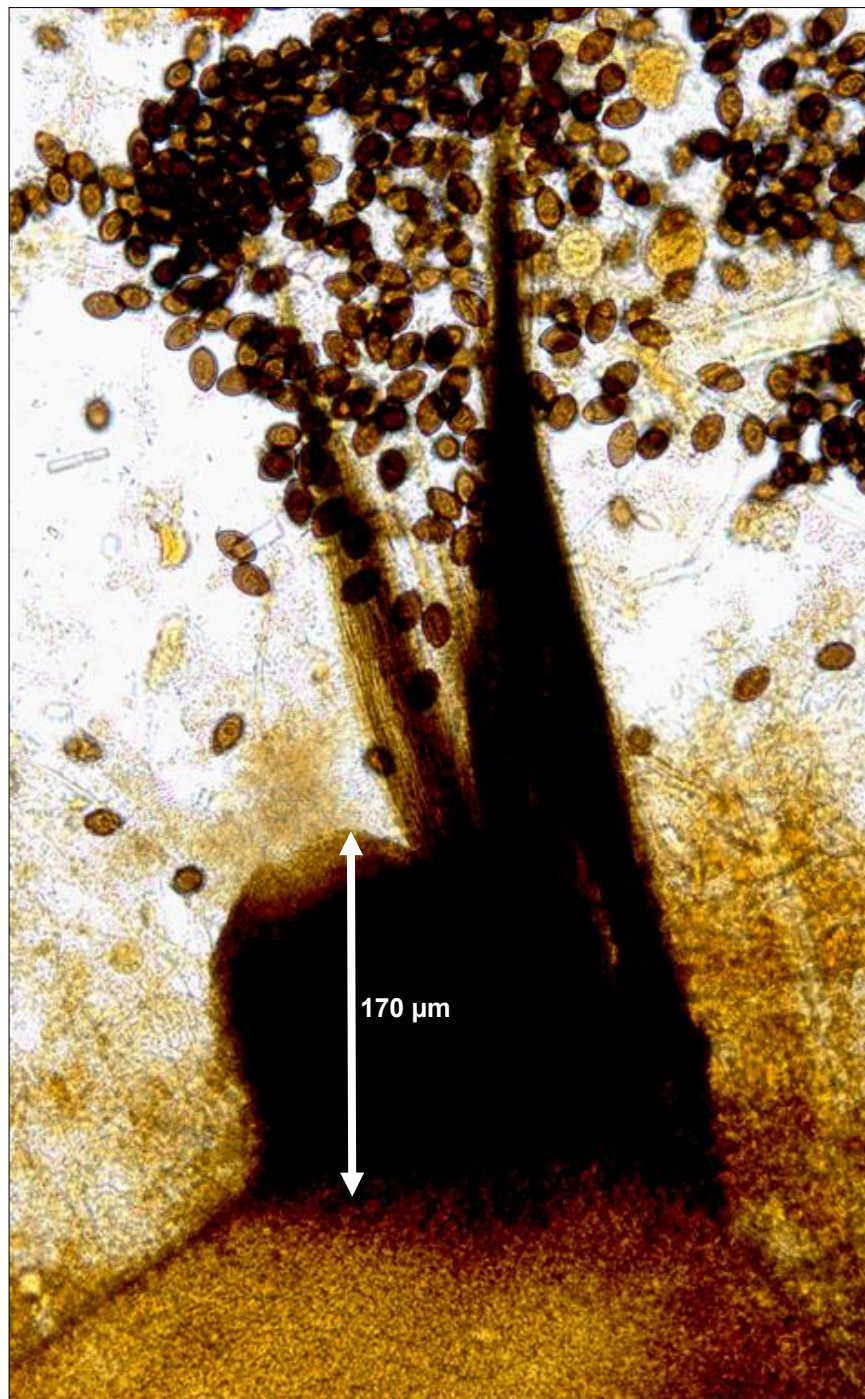
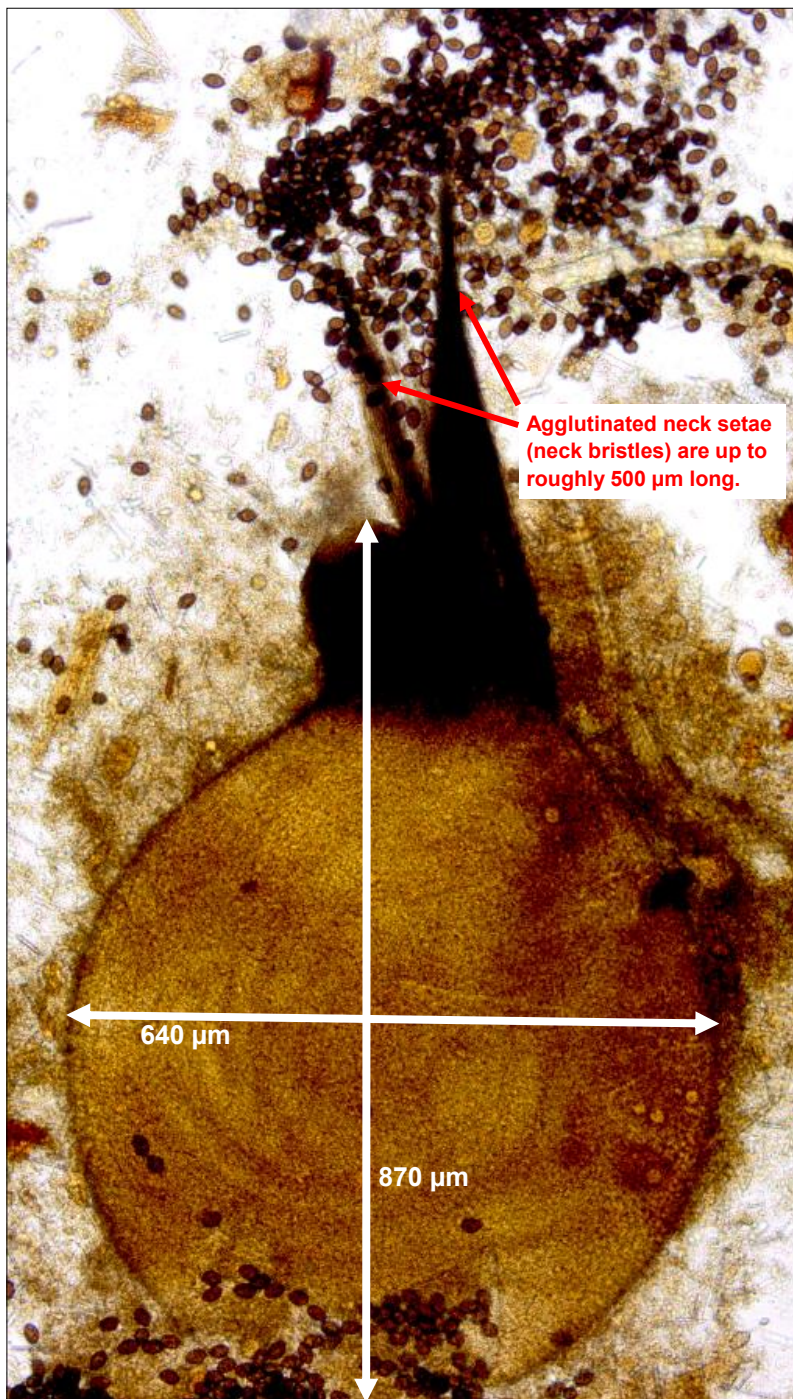
Substrate: brushtail possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) dung – dung collection # = NZ146

Collector & Identifier: Dan Mahoney

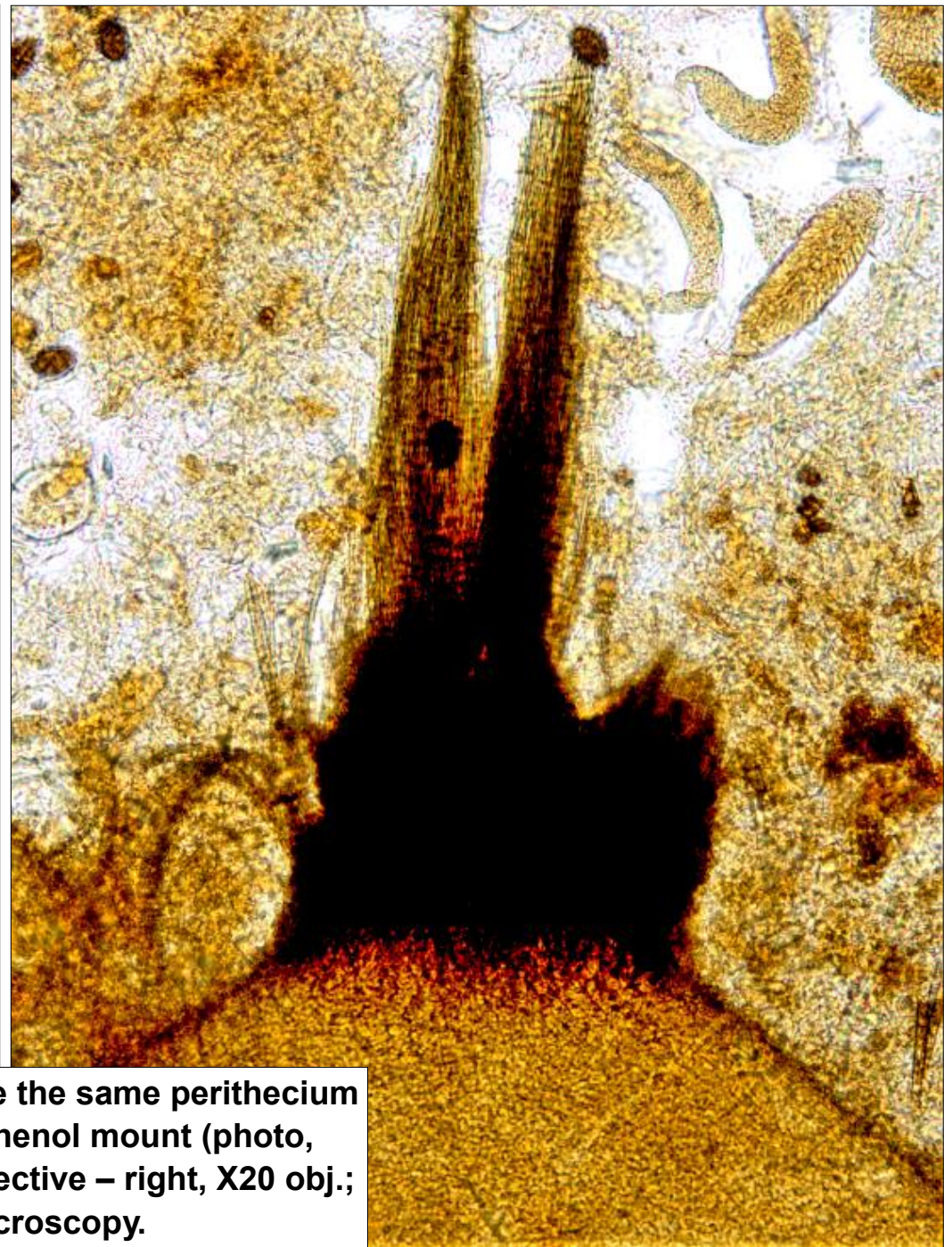
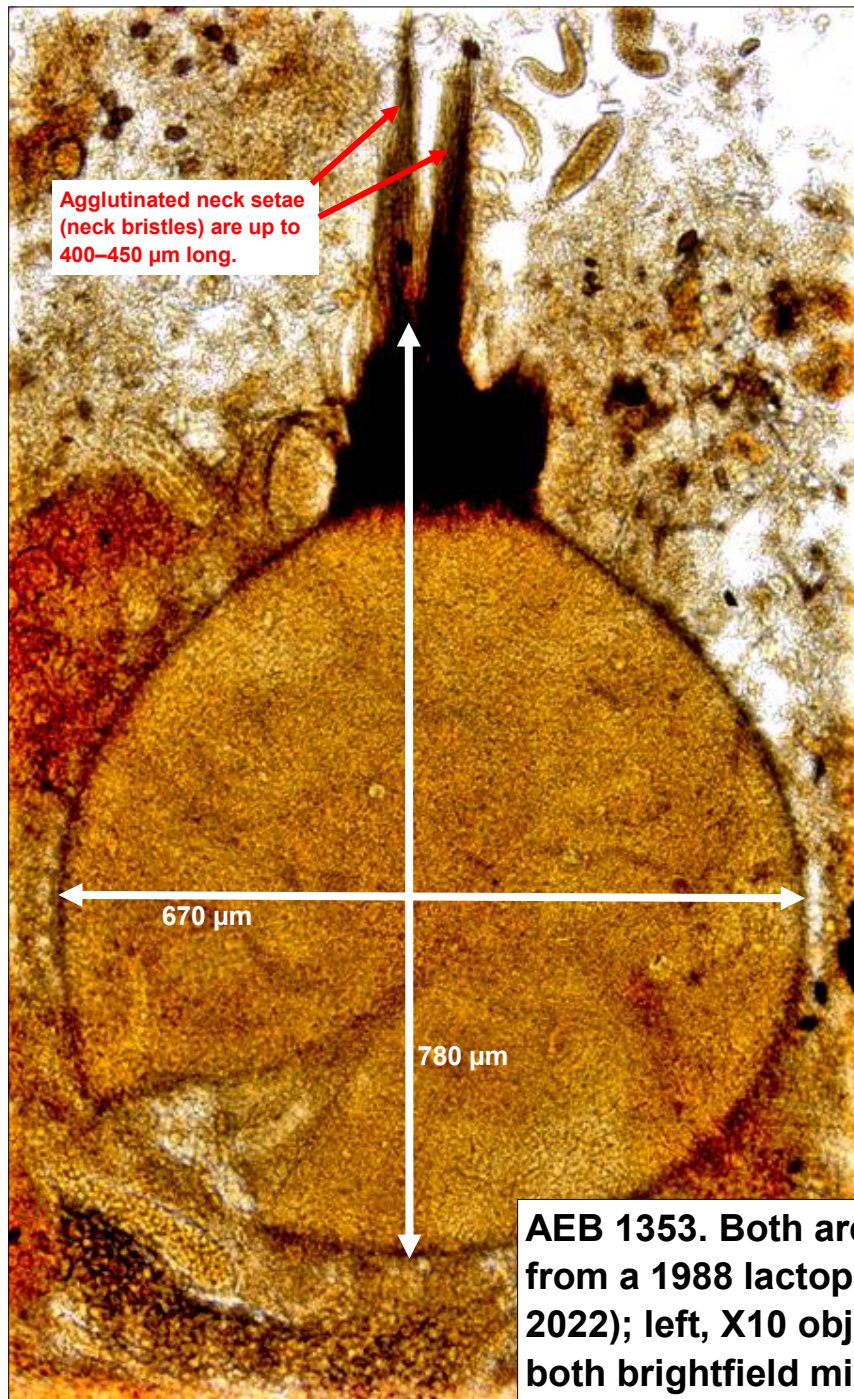
Voucher material: No dried herbarium specimen. One lactophenol semi-permanent microscope slide prepared from fresh material in 1988 (This was still in excellent condition when photographed on 12 Feb. 2022). The slide contains 3 large perithecia with short necks, a few large agglutinated setae on the necks, young asci and many free mature ascospores that have pigmented body cells >20 µm long. An Olympus BX51 microscope with a DP25 camera was used to prepare the digitized photos of microscopic detail presented in this pdf. Dan's brief comments.

Dan's brief comments: AEB 1353 is unusual among the many collections of *Podospora curvicolla* that Ann and I have observed. Its perithecia and ascospore pigmented body cells are larger than those in most other collections – only those in AEB 457 are as large. Unfortunately, no dried herbarium specimen exists and equally frustrating is the absence of mature asci on the microscope slide (256 ascospores/ascus are suspected). Overall, however, the ascospores (except for size) match those in other collections as do the perithecia (except for size). It is hoped that the information provided here will encourage those viewing possum dung on the S. Island West Coast in the future to verify these variations in the species description and culture/sequence that collection.

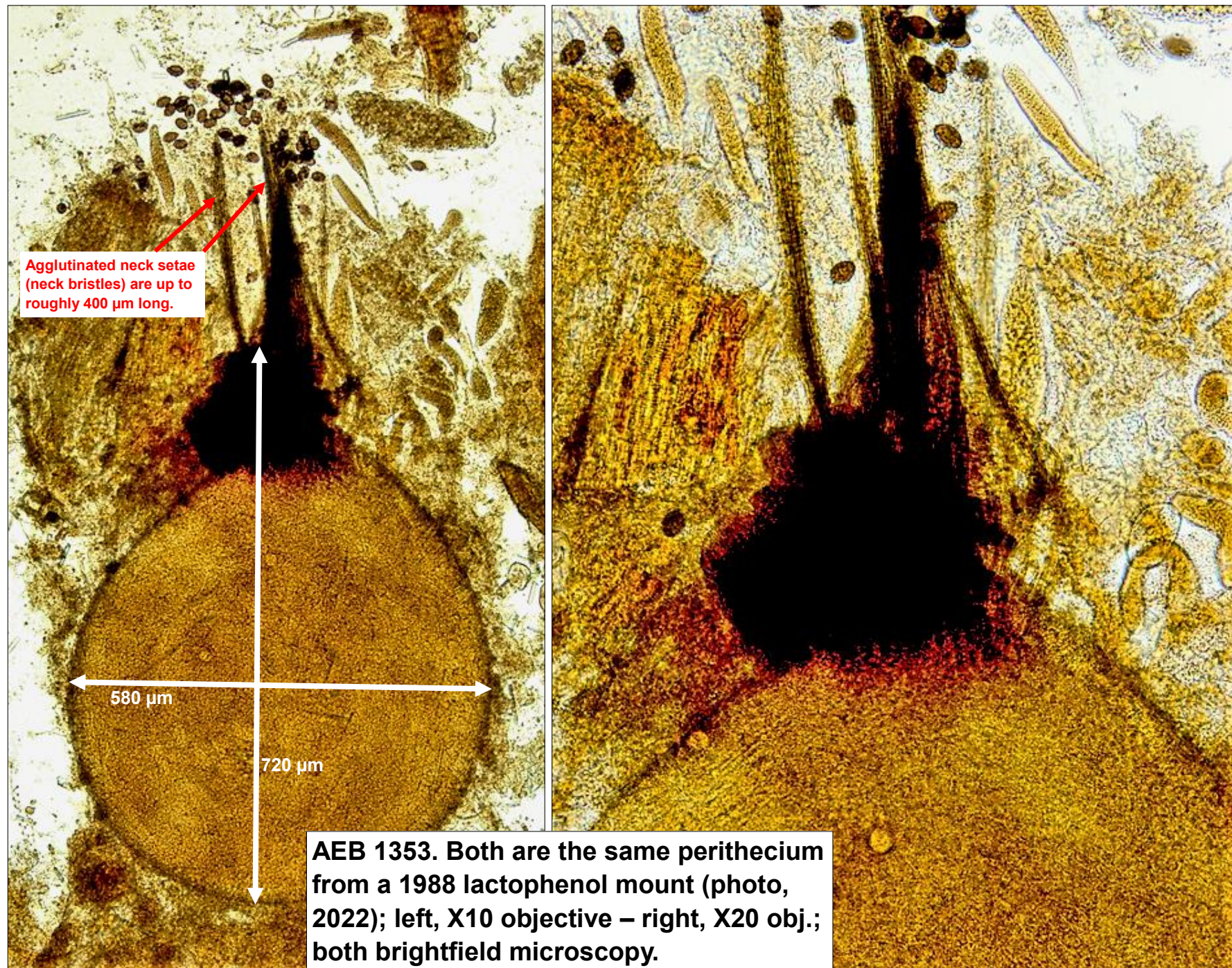
Measurements and descriptive details of AEB 1353 accompany the photographs in this pdf. Dan's pdf's on other collections of *P. curvicolla* in the PDD datastore provide further information on the degree of variation we have observed in this species.

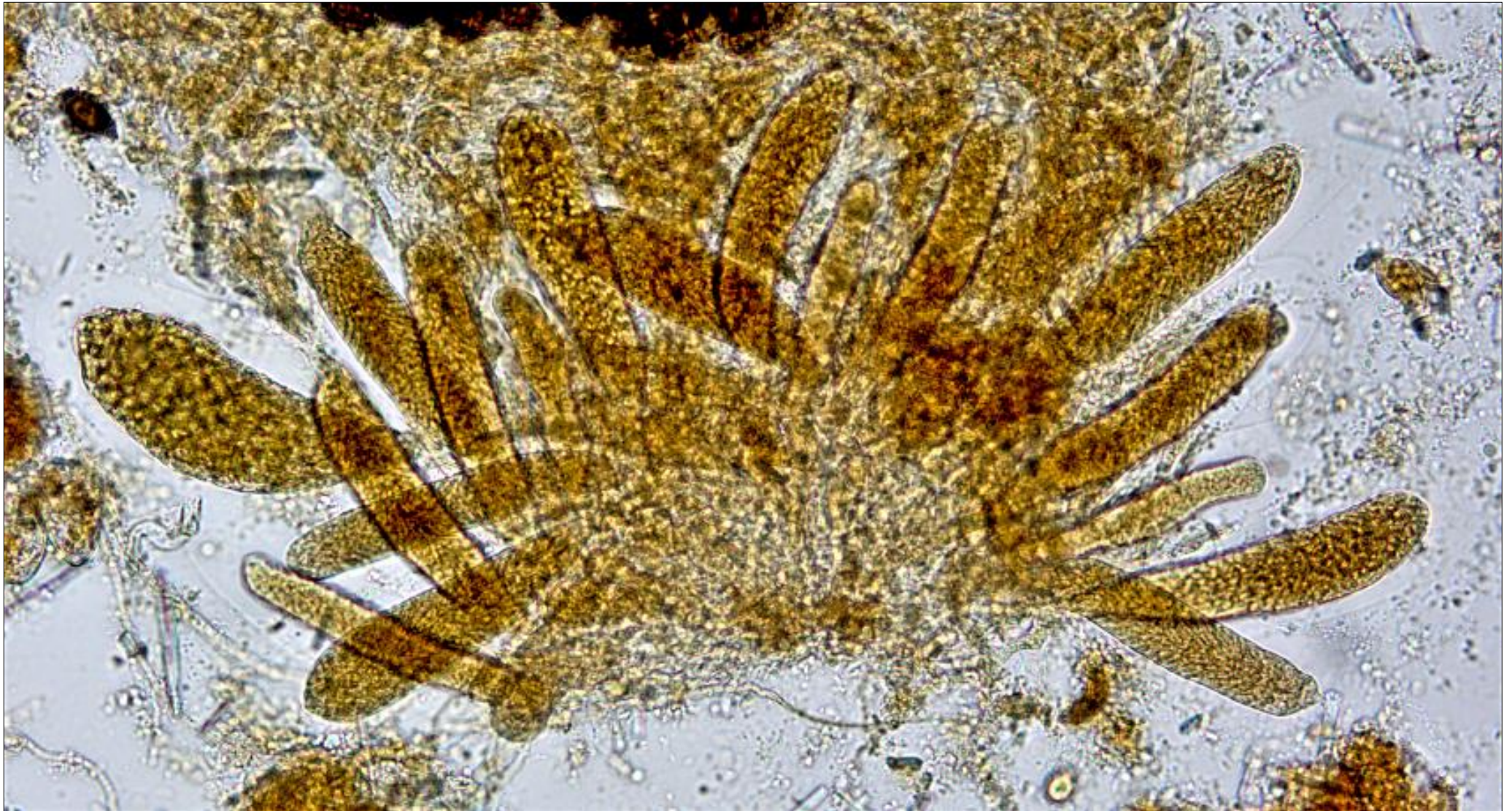


AEB 1353. Both are the same perithecium from a 1988 lactophenol mount (photo, 2022); left, X10 objective – right, X20 obj.; both bright-field microscopy.

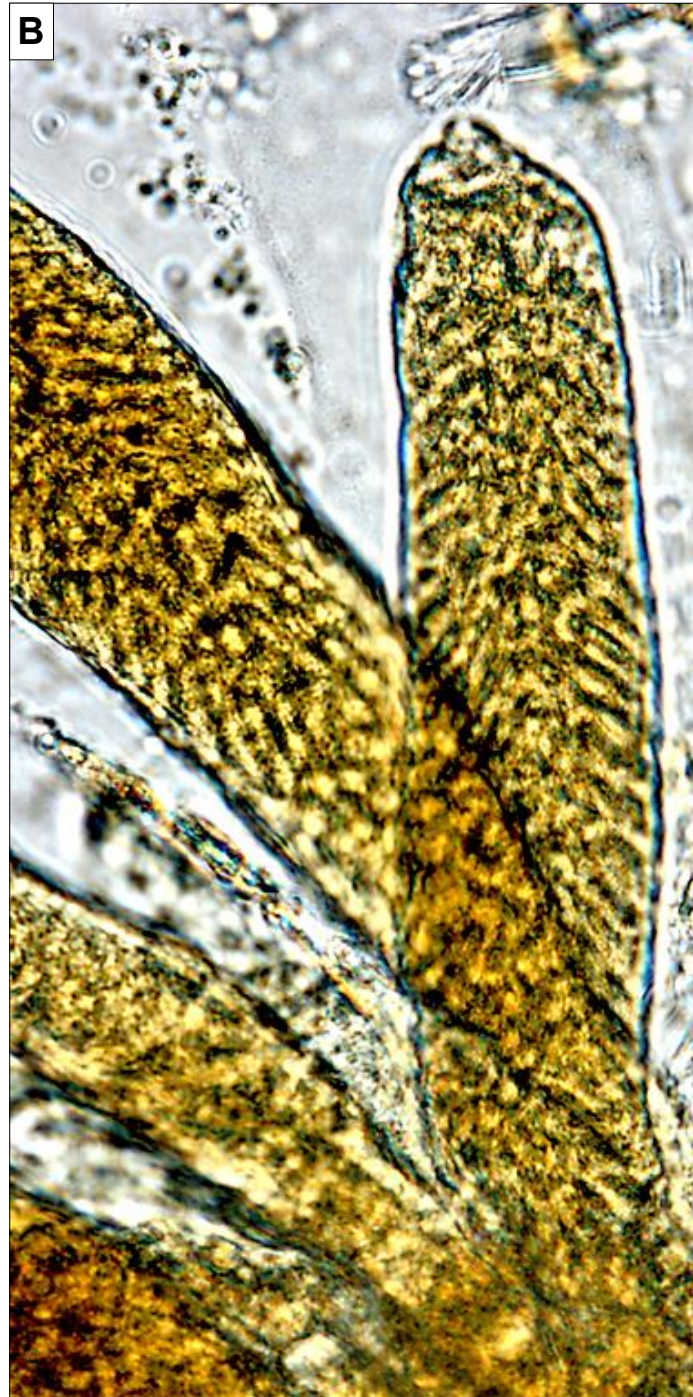


AEB 1353. Both are the same perithecium from a 1988 lactophenol mount (photo, 2022); left, X10 objective – right, X20 obj.; both brightfield microscopy.

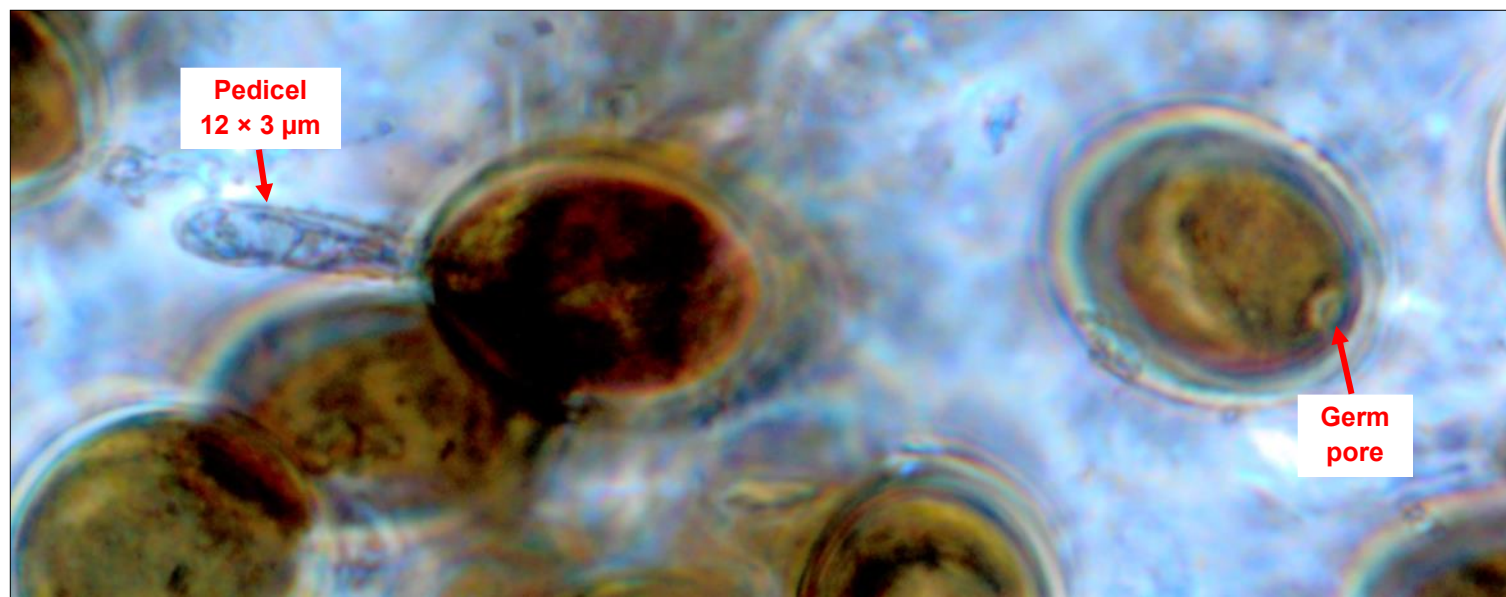
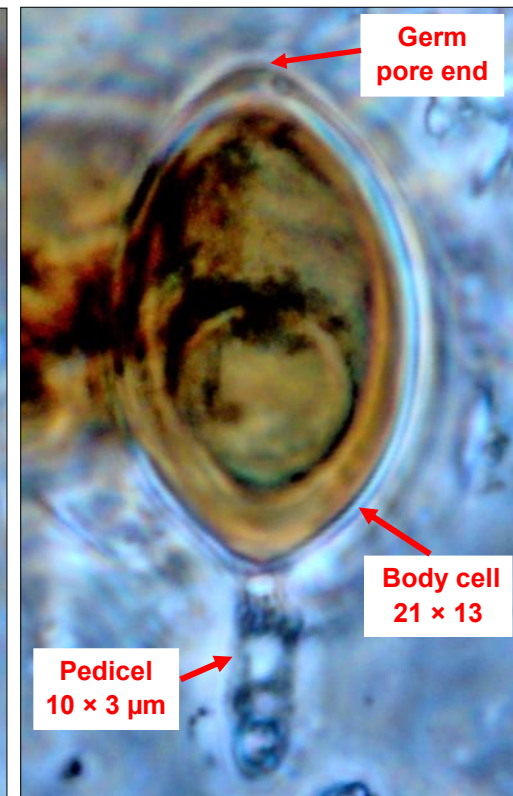
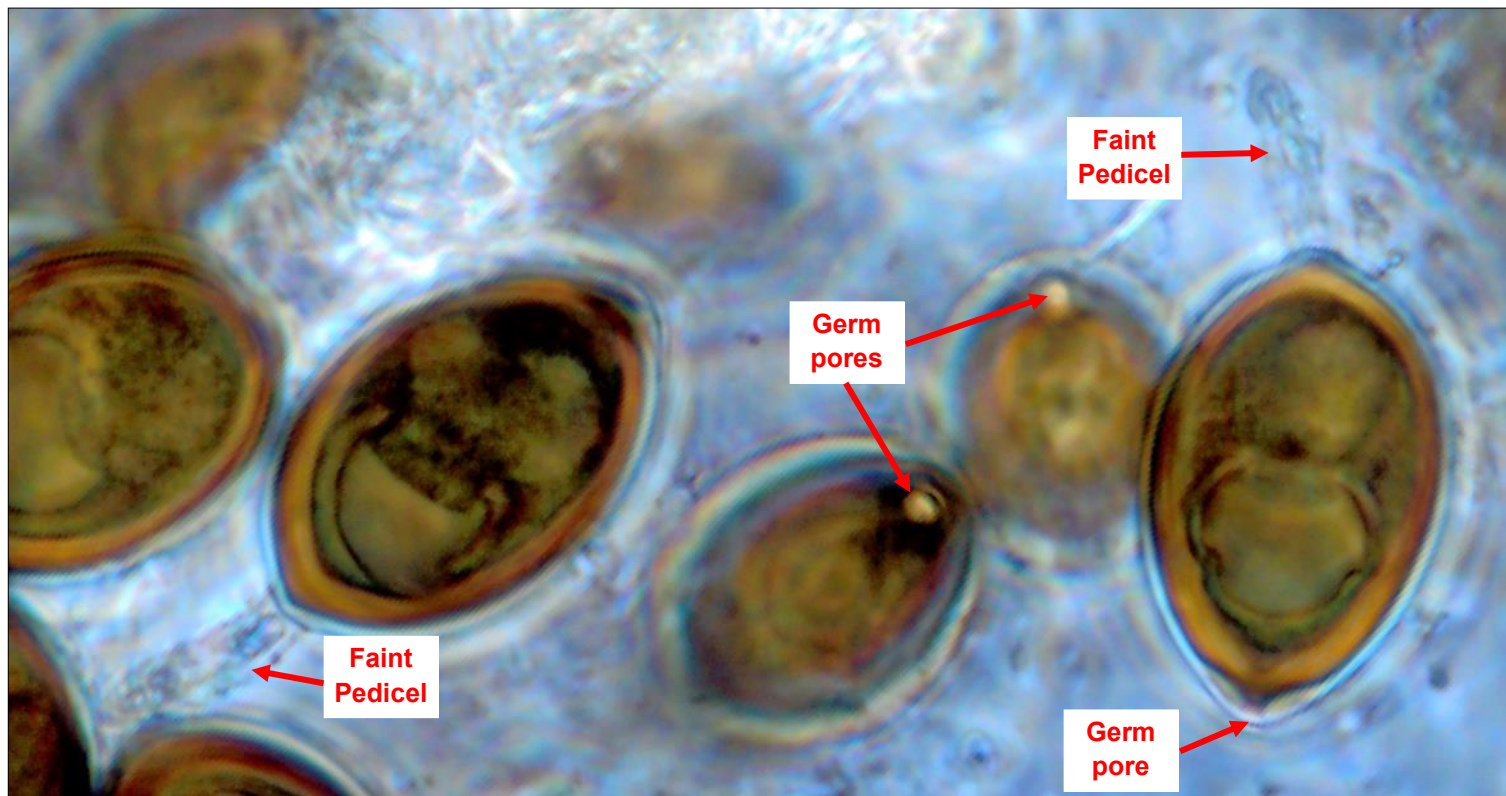




AEB 1353. Asci in various stages of development from a 1988 lactophenol mount photographed in 2022 (X20 objective and brightfield microscopy). Those asci at the left are shown under the X40 obj. at the left on the next page.



AEB 1353. A–C. Asci in various stages of development from a 1988 lactophenol mount photographed in 2022 (A, X40 objective; B&C, X100 obj.; all brightfield microscopy). Note the precise arrangement of very young ascospores in B&C.



AEB 1353. Ascospores from 1988 lactophenol mount (photo 2022), X100 objective, phase microscopy.

Overall: ascospore body cells were 20–23 × 13–15 μm and pedicels 10–12.5 × 3 μm.