



Conidiophores, conidia, and base of conidiophore. 1, from DAOM 37421; 2, from DAOM 29243. Scales =  $10\mu$ .

*Spadicoides obovata* (Cooke & Ellis) Hughes, Can. J. Bot. 36: 806. 1958.

≡ *Acrothecium obovatum* Cooke & Ellis, Grevillea 5: 50. 1876.

COLONIES black, extensive. MYCELIUM immersed or semi-immersed, composed of branched, septate, subhyaline to brown hyphae  $1.3-4\mu$  wide. CONIDIOPHORES crowded, arising singly or in tufts of up to five, simple,  $46-180\mu$  long, straight or curved, more or less cylindrical to subulate, swollen up to  $11\mu$  wide at the base, tapering gradually to  $3.5-4\mu$  wide toward the apex; thick-walled, brown to dark brown to almost black at the base, pale brown to brown toward the apex: conidiophore cells are  $9-22\mu$  long, the shortest ones being generally toward the apex; the apical cell may be slightly swollen and bears a flat terminal conidium scar. The upper half to three quarters of the conidiophore is conidiogenous, the place of attachment of fallen, lateral conidia being indicated by pores. Up to 10 pores may be found in a single cell and these are scattered, but when few pores are present they are arranged toward the apex of a cell. CONIDIA are dry, delicately attached and secede readily. They are obovoid, 2-septate, sometimes slightly waisted in the middle, rounded at the apex and slightly apiculate at the base, smooth, with the two distal cells dark brown and the proximal cell brown to dark brown, but occasionally the distal cell alone is darkest or the whole conidium may be evenly coloured: the septa are usually obscured by a darker band of colour in the conidium wall, the distal band being wider than the other. Conidia measure  $12-16.2 \times 6.0-8.1\mu$ , mostly  $13.5 \times 7.0\mu$ .

SUBSTRATE: On decaying wood of *Fagus grandifolia* and unidentified hosts.

DISTRIBUTION: Quebec.

COLLECTIONS: Que., Gatineau Park, X.1952, DAOM 29038 (S.J.H.), 29339, 29248b, 29343 (D.W. Wells), VII.1953, 37421 (S.J.H.), X.1958, 60085 (W.B. Kendrick), X.1961, 84884 (S.J.H.).

NOTES: Cooke & Ellis described their species, as *Acrothecium obovatum*, on decaying *Magnolia* from New Jersey, U.S.A. Peck collected the same species on decaying *Castanea* in New York State (Herb. NYS) but reported it as *Helminthosporium obovatum* Berk. (N.Y. State Mus. Rept. 32: 40.1879): *H. obovatum* is a different fungus currently classified in *Brachysporium* as *B. obovatum* (Berk.) Sacc. *Spadicoides obovata* is also well represented in Herb. DAOM by specimens I found on rotten wood near Ringwood, McLean, and Slaterville, N.Y. In 1963 I found the same fungus repeatedly in New Zealand on *Beilschmiedia tawa*, *Coprosma* sp., *Melicytus ramiflorus*, *Pseudopanax crassifolia*, *Weinmannia racemosa*, and on unidentified wood. Ellis (Mycol. Papers 93: 9.1963) redescribed this species from the type collection: the species does not apparently occur in Europe.

S.J. Hughes