



1, Conidiophores with conidia; 2, base of conidiophore; 3, apex of conidiophore with conidium initial; 4-8, conidia. 1, $\times 160$; 2-8, $\times 640$. 1, from DAOM 136755; 2, 4, from DAOM 60140; 3, from DAOM 41206; 5-8, from DAOM 35862.

Brachysporium nigrum (Link) Hughes, Can. J. Bot. 36: 742. 1958.

\equiv *Dactylium nigrum* Link, Linn. Spec. Plant. IV, 6(1): 77. 1824; Fries, Syst. Mycol. 3: 414. 1832.

COLONIES black, effuse. **MYCELIUM** mostly immersed, composed of branched, septate, brown hyphae $2-4\mu$ wide. **CONIDIOPHORES** erect, arising singly but often crowded, simple, straight or flexuous, septate, brown to dark brown, paler toward the apex, up to 350μ long, $6-8.5\mu$ wide just above the base which is usually swollen ($9-14\mu$) and bears two to four robust rooting hyphae; conidiophores taper subulately to $3-5\mu$ toward the paler apex which is often irregular with the remains of conidium pedicels. **CONIDIA** are produced blastically on successive new growing points at the apex of the conidiophores and are attached by a narrow, cylindrical, bent or twisted hyaline to subhyaline pedicel which is $3-5\mu$ long and about 1.5μ wide; they are often pendulous and occur in a dry cluster. At maturity the readily seceding conidia are broadly ellipsoidal, smooth, 3-septate, with the two central cells more or less equal in size and brown to dark brown, the end cells being smaller and subhyaline to pale brown. They measure $16.5-23 \times 8-12\mu$, mostly $18-21 \times 9-11\mu$ and when detached carry away with them part of the narrow pedicel.

SUBSTRATE: decaying wood or bark of *Acer*, *Betula*, *Fagus*, *Fraxinus*, *Populus*, and of unidentified hardwood trees.

DISTRIBUTION: Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia

COLLECTIONS (selected): Que.: Gatineau Park, VIII.1952, DAOM 28786, X.1954, 44958, VI.1959,

62415; near Cantley, VI.1952, 28631 (S.J.H.). Ont.: 15m N of Barrie, VII.1966, 136755 (D. Malloch); Bells Corners, VII.1952, 28620, 28622, V.1953, 35860, 35862; Christie Lake, IX.1965, 110330 (S.J.H.); Georgetown, IX.1941, 71407 (G.D. Darker); Kinburn, VIII.1952, 29322; near Kingston, IX.1966, 117488 (S.J.H.); Kleinburg, V.1953, 37133 (R.F. Cain); Merivale, VIII.1952, 28992 (S.J.H.); Nashville, X.1952, 37135; New Durham, IX.1934, 81412 (R.F.C.); South March, VI.1953, 36388 (S.J.H.). Sask.: Candle Lake, VIII.1967, 126852 (B.C. Sutton). B.C.: Hope, V.1961, 88687 (R.J. Bandoni).

NOTES: This species is represented in DAOM by 38 Canadian collections, mostly from the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. It is apparently restricted to decayed wood and bark of hardwood trees. Sutton (Mycol. Papers 132: 20. 1973) recorded numerous collections of *B. nigrum* on *Populus tremuloides* from Manitoba and Saskatchewan; part of one of the Saskatchewan specimens is preserved in DAOM. The synonyms of *B. nigrum* were listed by Hughes (Can. J. Bot. 36: 742-743. 1958) following an examination of type and authenticated collections. The species is widespread in Europe and has been illustrated and described by Hughes (Naturalist, Hull, 1951: 43-54. 1951), Ellis (Mycol. Papers, 106: 46. 1966) and Holubová-Jechová (Folia Geobot. Phytotax., Praha, 7: 217-224. 1972).

In DAOM we have recent collections from U.S.A. from Alleghany State Park, Morristown, Michigan Hollow and McLean in New York State and from Underhill in Vermont.

S.J. Hughes
E.G. Kokko