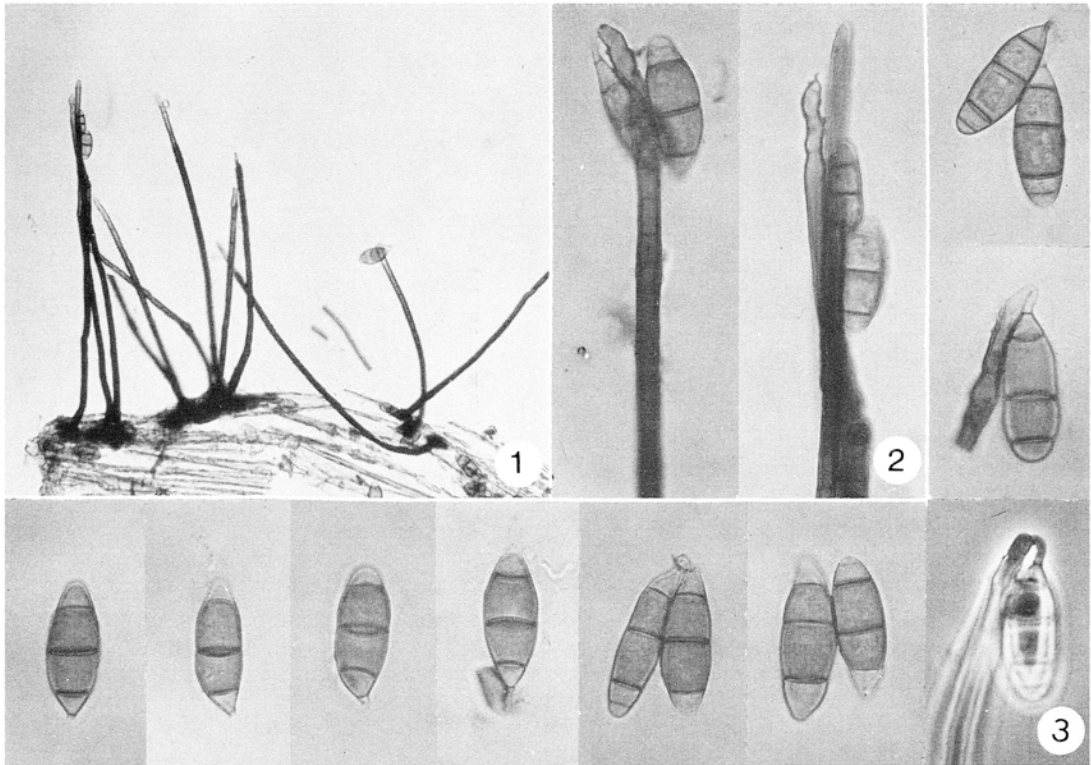


BRACHYSPORIUM ABIETINUM



1, 2, Conidiophores and conidia; 3, conidia, some of which are attached to the apex of a conidiophore. 1, $\times 160$; 2, 3, $\times 640$. From DAOM 28643.

Brachysporium abietinum Holubová-Jechová, Folia Geobot. Phytotax. Praha 7: 221. 1972.

COLONIES black and effuse. MYCELIUM mostly immersed, composed of branched, septate, pale brown to brown hyphae $2-4.8\mu$ wide. CONIDIOPHORES erect, arising singly or in scattered groups of up to six, simple, straight or flexuous, septate, brown to dark brown, paler toward the apex, up to 330μ long, $5.5-7.2\mu$ wide just above the base which is usually swollen ($8-14\mu$): conidiophores taper subulately to $3.3-4.5\mu$ toward the 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, generally recurved subhyaline pedicel which is $2-4\mu$ long and $1.4-1.8\mu$ wide: they are usually pendulous and occur in a dry cluster, and secede readily. They are ellipsoidal, smooth, mostly 3-septate with the two central cells usually more or less equal in size and pale brown to brown, the end cells being smaller and subhyaline: conidia measure $25-33 \times 10.8-12.6\mu$ and when detached carry away with them part of the pedicel.

SUBSTRATE: decaying wood of unidentified conifer.

DISTRIBUTION: Ontario

COLLECTION: Ont.: Blakeney, VII.1952, DAOM 28643 (S.J. Hughes).

NOTES: This species was described from two collections on *Abies alba* and *Picea abies* from Czechoslovakia. I have compared DAOM 28643 with a preparation from the type collection (on *A. alba*), made available through the kindness of Dr. V. Holubová-Jechová. In the Canadian collection the central cells are occasionally slightly paler than in the type, and there are some conidia with a fourth septum and a few others with unequal central cells: however, irregular septation is not uncommon in species of *Brachysporium*. The conidium measurements of the Canadian collection are similar to those obtained by Holubová-Jechová, (26-30(-32.5) × (9-)10-12(-12.5)μ). *Brachysporium abietinum* has larger and paler conidia than *B. nigrum* (Fungi Canadenses No. 69) and has been found only on coniferous wood, whereas *B. nigrum* occurs on wood of broad-leaved trees.

S.J. Hughes