

MYXOMYCETES

(also called plasmodial slime molds
or myxogastriids)

A glossary of common terms

Dr. Rod Nelson

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

Dr. Steve Stephenson

University of Arkansas – Fayetteville

The myxomycetes are a group of relatively obscure organisms that inhabit plant surfaces, litter and soil. They are heterotrophic motile organisms and produce spores as a mechanism for reproduction and dispersal.

The terminology associated with their identification is somewhat specific and occasionally unfamiliar. This glossary is intended to assist both the novice and experienced scientist when clarification of terminology is required. The buttons below will take you to terms beginning with those letters, then clicking on the term will take you to the definitions and illustrations.

A-D

E-M

N-Q

R-Z

A-D

- Aethaliate
- Aethalium
- Amoeboflagellate cell
- Anastomosed
- Angular
- Aphanoplasmodium
- Areolate
- Asperulate
- Attenuate
- Badhamioid
- Binomial
- Bryophilous
- Calyculus
- Capillitium (pl. capillitia)
- Cartilaginous
- Cellular slime molds
- Cinereous
- Circumscissile
- Clavate
- Clustered
- Columella
- Compressed
- Concolorous
- Conical
- Convolute
- Coprophilous
- Cortex
- Corticolous
- Cylindrical
- Dehiscence
- Dendroid
- Dichotomous
- Dictydine granules
- Dictyostelids

E-M

N-Q

R-Z

- Echinate
- Effused
- Elater
- Endosporous
- Epiphytic
- Exosporous
- Fasciculate
- Ferruginous
- Flagellate
- Flagellum
- Flexuous
- Floriform
- Fructification
- Fruiting body
- Fungivorous
- Fuscous
- Fusiform

E-M

- Gamete
- Globose
- Gregarious
- Hyaline
- Hygroscopic
- Hypha pl. hyphae
- Hypothallus
- Iridescent
- Lenticular
- Life cycle
- Lignicolous
- Lime node
- Limy
- Membranous
- Microcyst
- Moist chamber culture
- Myxamoeba pl. myxamoebae
- Myxomyceticolous

A-D

N-Q

R-Z

N-Q

- Node
- Obovate
- Obpyriform
- Ochraceous
- Olivaceous
- Operculate
- Operculum
- Ovate
- Ovoid
- Palisade
- Pallid
- Papillate
- Peridial net
- Peridium
- Perithecium
- Persistent
- Petaloid
- Phaneroplasmodium
- Physaroid
- Plasmodic granules
- Plasmodiocarp
- Plasmodiocarpous
- Plasmodium
- Poroid
- Prolate
- Prostrate
- Protoplasmic streaming
- Protoplasmodium (pl. protoplasmodia)
- Protostelids
- Pseudoaethaliate
- Pseudoaethalium (pl. pseudoaethalia)
- Pseudocapillitium (pl. pseudocapallitia)
- Pseudocolumella (pl. pseudocolumellae)
- Pseudoplasmodium (pl. pseudoplasmodia)
- Pulverulent
- Pulvinate
- Punctate
- Pyriform

R-Z

- Recurved
- Reniform
- Reticulate
- Revolvute
- Rugose
- Saprophagous
- Sclerotium
- Sessile
- Sinuuous
- Solitary
- Sorocarp
- Spinulose
- Spiny
- Sprongiate
- Sporangium
- Spore
- Spore ball
- Spore mass
- Sporophore
- Sporulate
- Sporulation
- Stalk
- Stellate
- Stipe
- Stipitate
- Striate
- Subcylindrical
- Subglobose
- Surface net
- Swarm cell
- Terete
- Tessellate
- Truncate
- Turbinate
- Umbilicate
- Venulose
- Verrucose
- Verruculose
- Violaceous
- Warted

A-D

E-M

N-Q

Aethaliate: Producing or suggestive of the aethalium type of fruiting body (see aethalium image).



Aethalium



Return to A-E

Aethalium (plural aethalia): A relatively large, sessile, round or mound-shaped fruiting body formed from all or a major portion of a plasmodium.



Enteridium sp.



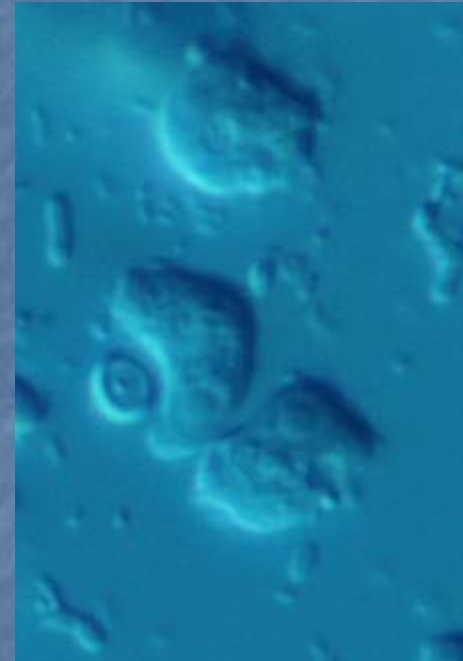
Lygogala epidendrum

Return to A-E

Amoeboflagellate cell: A general term used to refer to either of the uninucleate haploid trophic stages (i.e., myxamoeba or swarm cell) in the myxomycete life cycle.



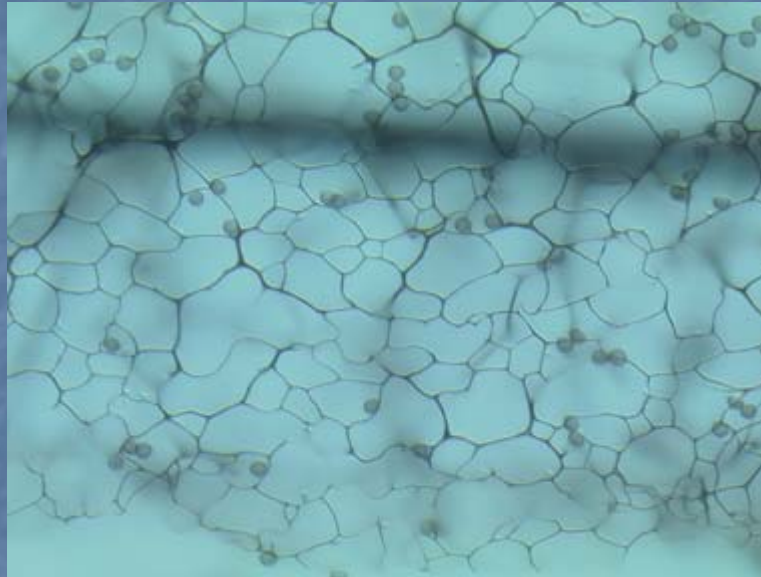
Swarm cell



Myxamoebae

[Return to A-E](#)

Anastomosed: Interconnected or joined repeatedly to form a network.



Anastomosed surface net of
Stemonitis fusca

[Return to A-E](#)

Angular: Having an angle or angles; not rounded in outline.



Perichaena depressa

[Return to A-E](#)

Aphanoplasmodium (plural aphanoplasmodia): A type of plasmodium that is flat, transparent, and difficult to observe in nature; it generally is evident only when it heaps up in preparation for the formation of fruiting bodies; characteristic of members of the Stemonitales.



[Return to A-E](#)

Areolate: Having a surface divided into smaller areas by cracks or crevices.



[Return to A-E](#)

Asperulate: Having a surface that appears rough because of the presence of small warts or spines.



[Return to A-E](#)

Attenuate: Gradually narrowed; becoming smaller and thinner.

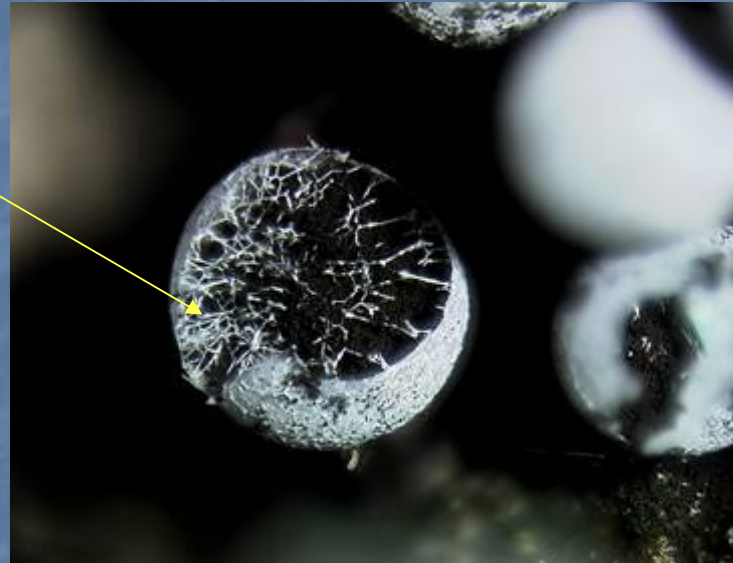


Attenuate capillitial tip in *Trichia decipiens*

Return to A-E

Badhamioid: A type of capillitium consisting entirely of limy elements.

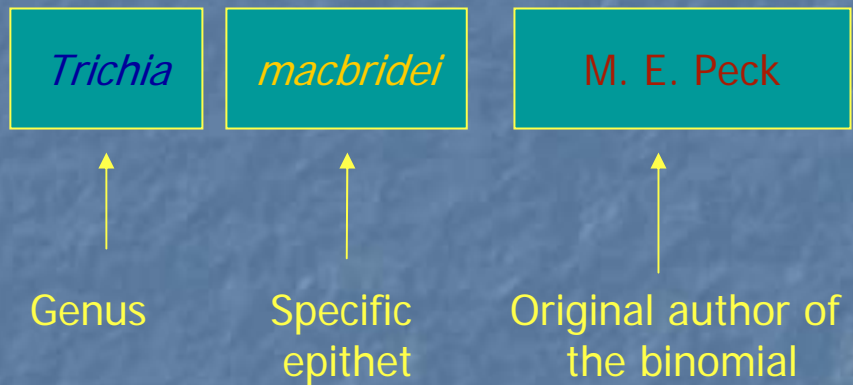
Badhamioid capillitium



[Return to A-E](#)

Binomial: A two-word term that represents the name of a particular species. The first word (the genus) is capitalized while the second word (the specific epithet) is never capitalized. Following the Binomial is the authority that refers to the individual(s) who named the species. The binomial is either italicized or underlined.

Trichia macbridei M. E. Peck or Trichia macbridei M. E. Peck



[Return to A-E](#)

Bryophilous: Living on, or at least associated with, bryophytes (mosses and liverworts).



Leafy liverwort

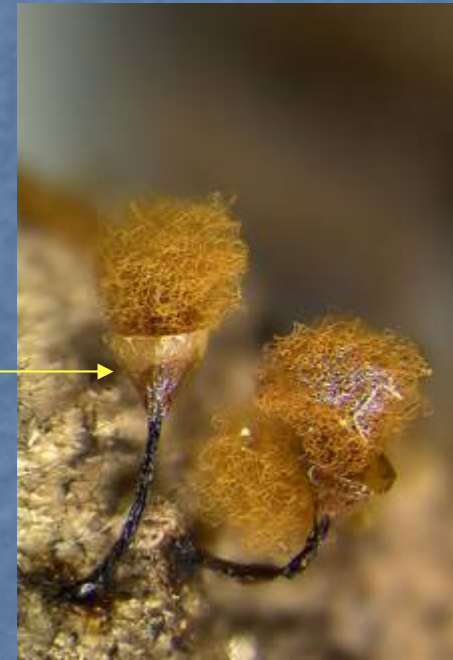
Lepidoderma tigrinum

[Return to A-E](#)

Calyculus (plural calyculi): A persistent cuplike structure formed from the basal portion of the peridium and surrounding the base of the spore mass.

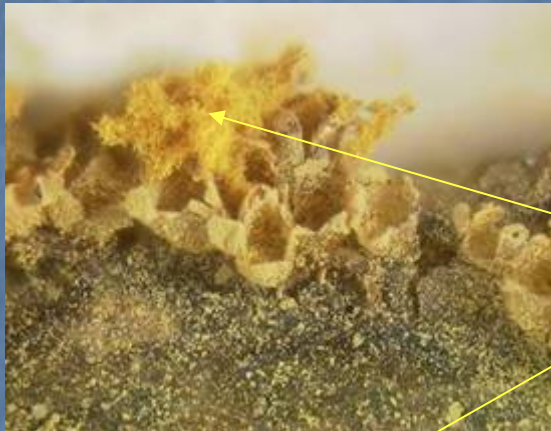


Calyculus



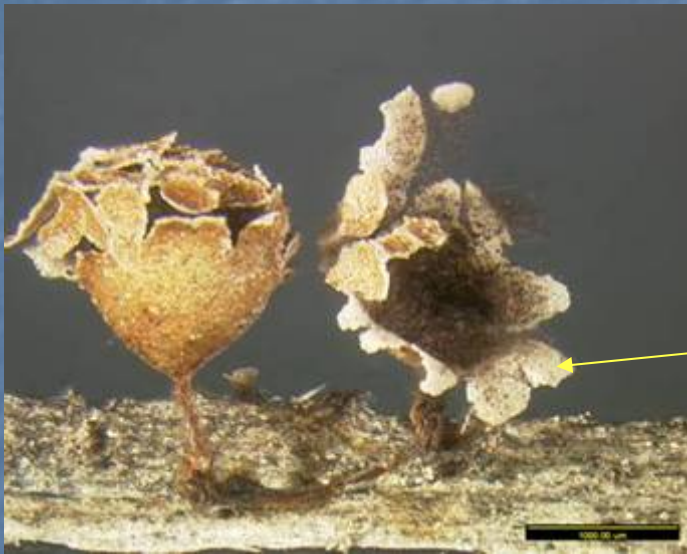
[Return to A-E](#)

Capillitium (plural capillitia): A system of sterile elements found within the spore mass of many myxomycetes.



Return to A-E

Cartilaginous: Consisting of a stout, uniformly thickened and usually rather stiff layer.



Diderma floriforme

Cartilaginous
peridium



Leocarpus fragilis

Return to A-E

Cellular slime molds: A group of organisms with a uninucleate, amoeboid trophic stage similar to the one found in the myxomycetes but not forming plasmodia or the types of fruiting bodies characteristic of the latter group.



Aggregating myxamoebae



Slug and developing sorocarp



Sorocarp

[Return to A-E](#)

Cinereous: Bluish gray; the color of ashes.

NOTE: Colors will vary depending on monitor calibration.



Sporangium of
Arcyria cinerea

[Return to A-E](#)

Circumscissile: Dehiscing along a line around the middle.



Circumscissile dehiscence
in *Perichaena corticalis*

Return to A-E

Clavate: Club-shaped.



Craterium aureum



Hemitrichia clavata

Return to A-E

Clustered: Occurring close together in the same small area of the substrate.



Clustered sporangia of
Stemonitis axifera



Clustered sporangia of
Hemitrichia clavata

Return to A-E

Columella (plural columellae): A sterile structure that extends into the spore mass from below; in stipitate forms it appears to represent an extension of the stalk that continues upward.



Columella



[Return to A-E](#)

Compressed: Pressed together; flattened.



Physarum compressum



Physarum bilvalve

Return to A-E

Concolorous: Having the same color.



Concolorous peridium and capillitium of
Hemitrichia serpula

[Return to A-E](#)

Conical: More or less cone-shaped.



Conical aethalia of
Lycogala conicum

[Return to A-E](#)

Convolut: Coiled or twisted.



Convolut capillitial
elements

Metatrichia vesparium

Return to A-E

Coprophilous: Dung-inhabiting; occurring on dung.



Perichaena liceoides on
bison dung

Return to A-E

Cortex: The thick covering over the spore mass of an aethalium.



Aethalium of *Fuligo septica* with a dark spore mass and a lighter cortex.

Return to A-E

Corticolous: Living on bark; associated with the bark surface of living trees.



[Return to A-E](#)

Cylindrical: Having the general form of a cylinder; a term applied to a structure with essentially the same diameter throughout its length.



[Return to A-E](#)

Dehiscence: The splitting of the peridium (or cortex) in mature fruiting bodies to expose the spore mass.

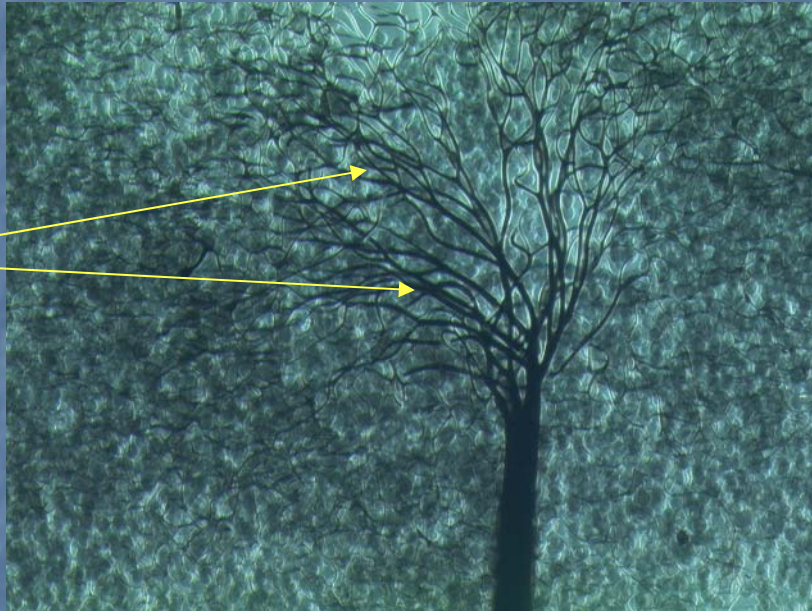
Site of dehiscence



Return to A-E

Dendroid: Treelike; branching like a tree.

Dendroid capillitium of
Lamproderma arcyronema



Return to A-E

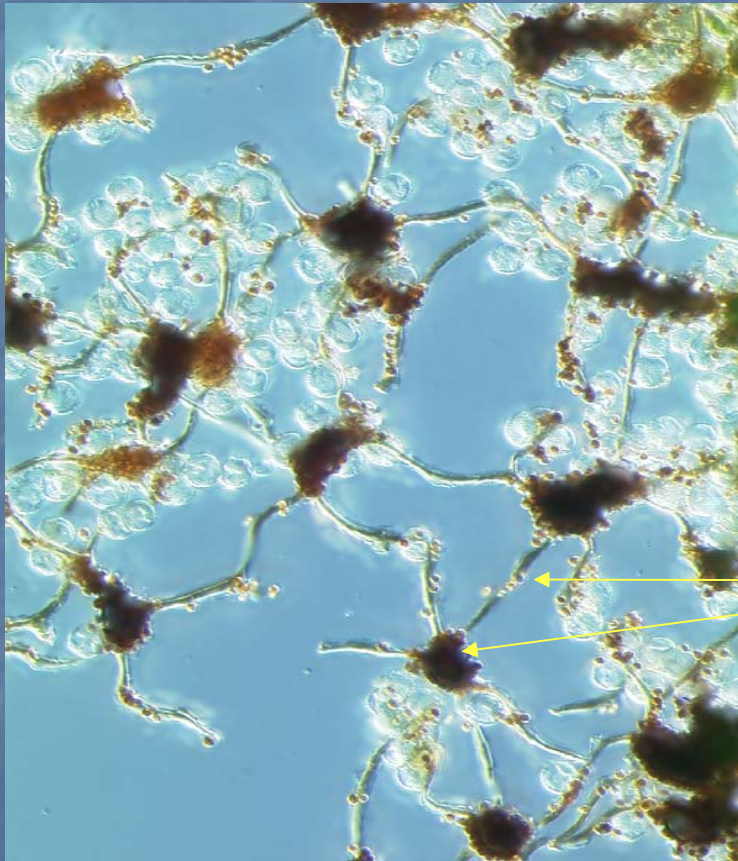
Dichotomous: Branching or forking into two more or less equal parts.

Dichotomous branching in the capillitium of a *Lamproderma*



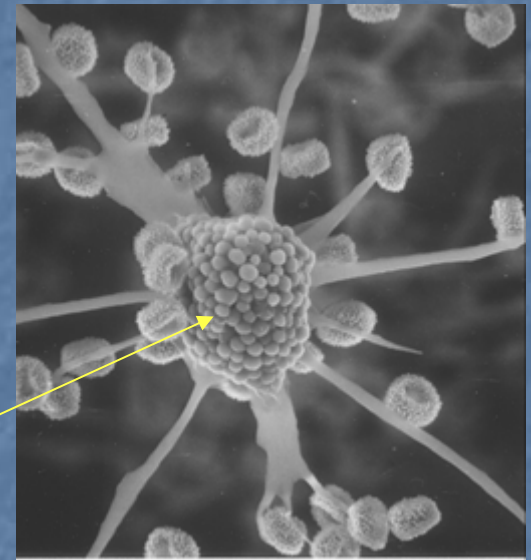
Return to A-E

Dictydine granules: Microscopic and usually dark-colored structures found in the fruiting bodies of some members of the Liceales; also called plasmodic granules.



Cribraria tenella

Dictydine
granules



Cribraria sp.

Return to A-E

Discoïd: Disk-shaped.



Discoïd sporangia of
Physarum nutans

Return to A-E

Dictyostelids: See [cellular slime molds](#).

Cellular slime molds

Return to A-E

Echinate: Spiny; having a surface covered with sharp-pointed spines.



Capillitium of *Perichaena chrysosperma*



Spore of *Lamproderma* sp.

[Return to E-M](#)

Effused: Flattened or spread out over the substrate.



Diderma effusum
on a leaf

[Return to E-M](#)

Elater: A single, free, simple or branched capillitial strand; characteristic of some members of the Trichiales.

Elaters in *Trichia decipiens*



[Return to E-M](#)

Endosporous: Having spores borne within the fruiting body; characteristic of all myxomycetes except members of the Ceratiomyxales.

Spores inside sporangium



[Return to E-M](#)

Epiphytic: Growing or occurring upon other plants.

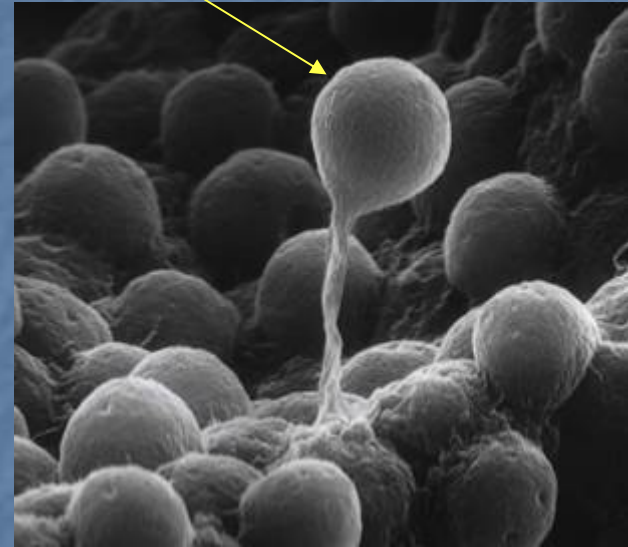
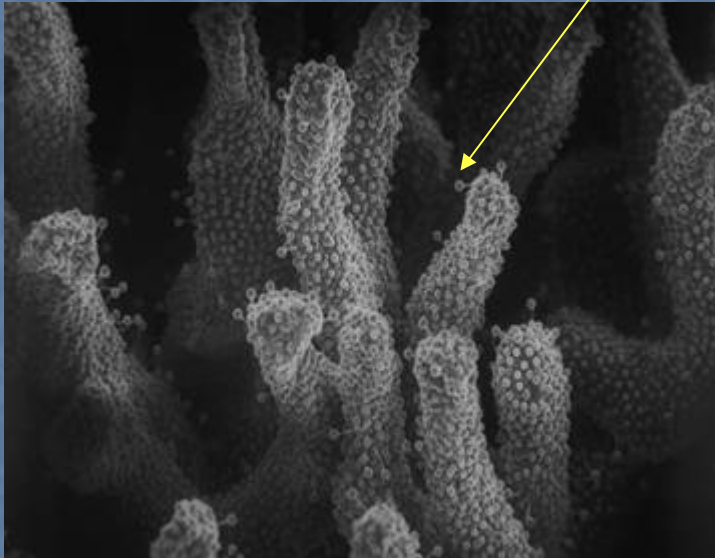


Leocarpus fragilis as an
epiphyte on a lycopod

[Return to E-M](#)

Exosporous: Having spores borne on the outer surface of the fruiting body; a condition found only in the Ceratiomyxales.

Spores



[Return to E-M](#)

Fasciculate: Occurring close together in small groups or bundles.



Fasciculate sporangia of
Stemonitis axifera

[Return to E-M](#)

Ferruginous: Rust-colored; having the color of iron rust.



Ferruginous sporangia
of *Arcyria* sp.

[Return to E-M](#)

Flagellate: Possessing one or more flagella.



Flagellate swarm cell

[Return to E-M](#)

Flagellum (plural flagella): A relatively long and whiplike structure used in locomotion; characteristic of swarm cells.

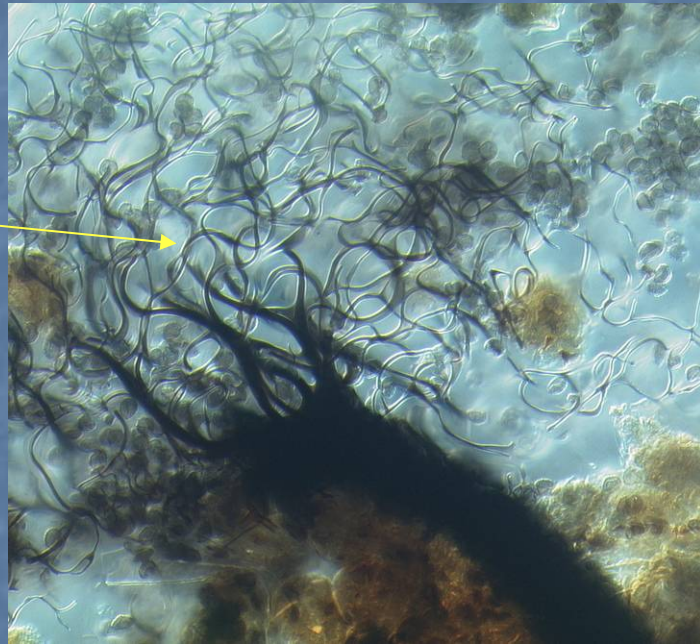


Flagella

[Return to E-M](#)

Flexuous: Having bends or curves; crooked.

Flexuous capillitia of
Lamproderma arcyronema



Return to E-M

Floriform: Having a pattern of dehiscence in which the peridium splits into lobes arranged like the petals of a flower; also called petaloid.



Physarella oblonga



Diderma asteroides

[Return to E-M](#)

Fructification: See Fruiting body.

Fruiting Body

Return to E-M

Fruiting body: A general term for the spore-producing structure produced during the reproductive stage in the myxomycete life cycle; the structure within which (or in one case, on the surface of which) the spores are produced; also referred to as a fructification or sporophore.



Sporangium



Plasmodiocarp



Aethalium



Pseudoaethalium

[Return to E-M](#)

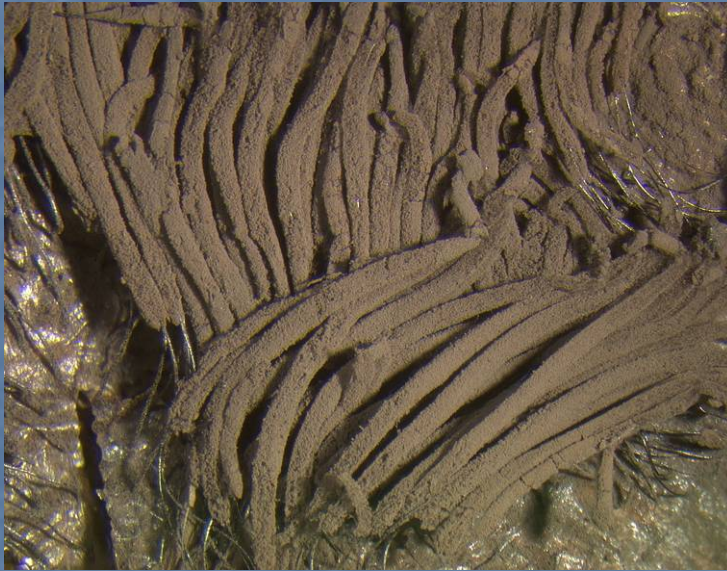
Fungivorous: Fungus-feeding; feeding upon the fruiting bodies or vegetative hyphae of fungi.



Fungivorous plasmodium on
a basidiomycete

[Return to E-M](#)

Fuscous: Brownish gray; smoky drab or dusky in color.



Fuscous sporangia of
Stemonitis fusca

[Return to E-M](#)

Fusiform: Spindle-shaped; tapering at both ends.



Fusiform sporangia of
Lamproderma fusiforme

[Return to E-M](#)

Gamete: A haploid reproductive cell capable of fusing with another similar cell to produce a diploid zygote.



Gametes of *Physarum pusillum*
prior to fusion

Return to E-M

Globose: Spherical; having the general form or shape of a ball.



Lamproderma carestiae
sporangia

[Return to E-M](#)

Gregarious: Occurring relatively close together in the same general area of the substrate but not clustered.

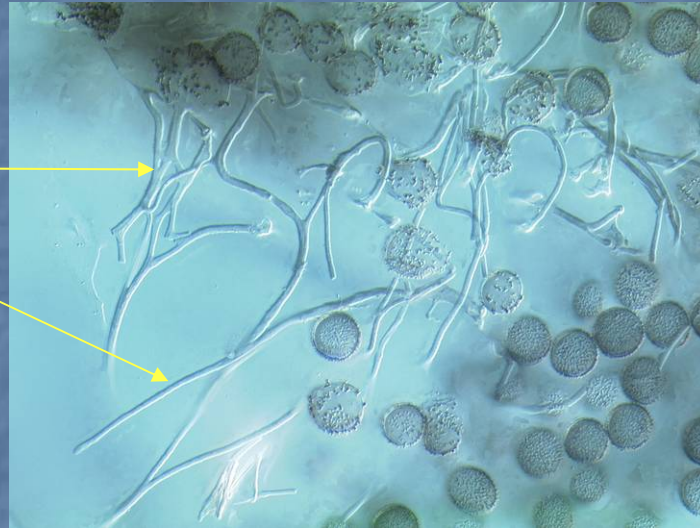


Trichia favoginea

[Return to E-M](#)

Hyaline: Clear or transparent.

Hyaline capillitia of
Didymium melanospermum



Return to E-M

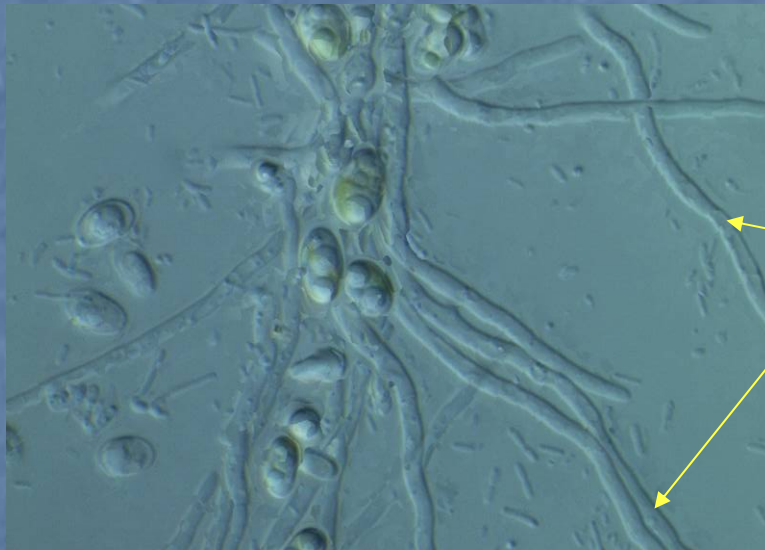
Hygroscopic: Absorbing or releasing moisture in response to changes in atmospheric humidity and consequently changing shape.



Elaters change shape as humidity changes

Return to E-M

Hypha (plural hyphae): One of the individual strands or threadlike elements that make up the vegetative body of a fungus.



Hyphae

[Return to E-M](#)

Hypothallus (plural hypothalli): A thin layer deposited by a plasmodium at the time of fruiting; located on the substrate beneath one or more fruiting bodies.



Hypothallus

Return to E-M

Iridescent: Displaying rainbowlike colors.

Iridescent peridium



Return to E-M

Lenticular: Shaped like a double convex lens.

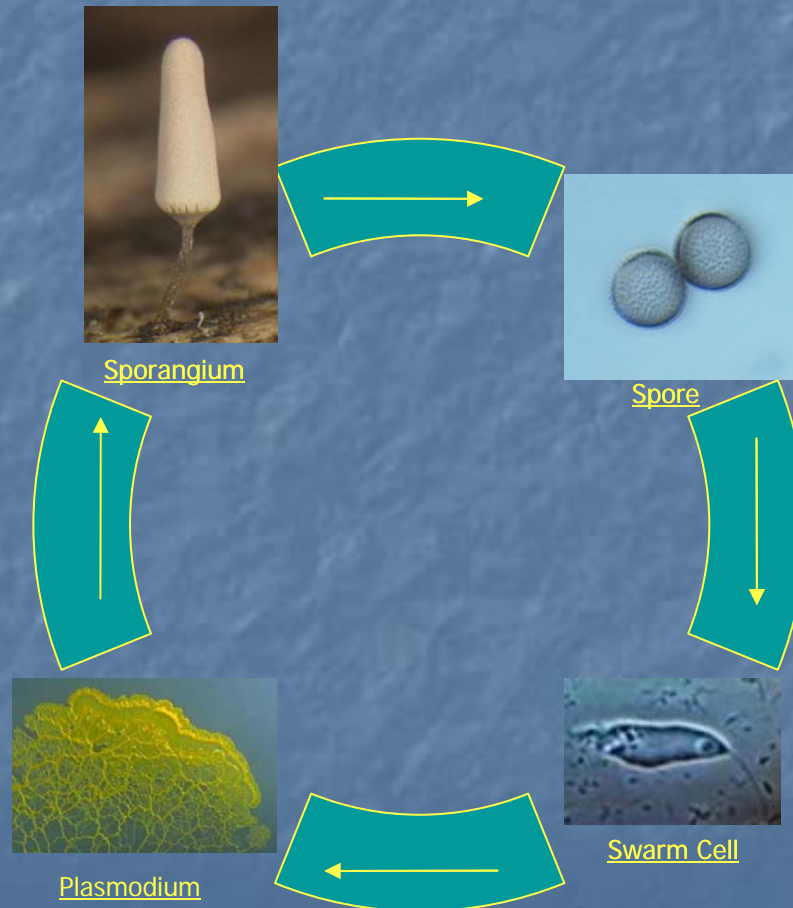


Lenticular sporangia of
Physarum viride

Return to E-M

Life cycle: The series of events or stages involved in the perpetuation of an organism.

Myxomycete Life Cycle



Return to E-M

Lignicolous: Living on or within wood.



Lycogala on a dead log



Trichia pusilla on wood

[Return to E-M](#)

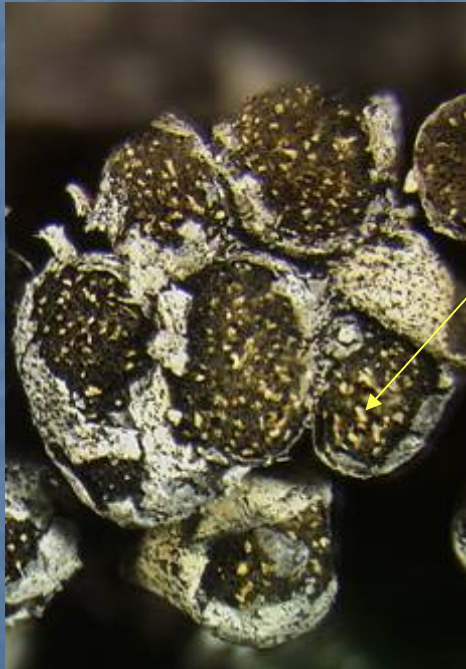
Lime node: An enlarged, lime-containing junction in the capillitium; characteristic of some members of the Physarales.

Lime nodes



[Return to E-M](#)

Limy: Containing lime (calcium carbonate).



Limy nodes

[Return to E-M](#)

Membranous: Consisting of a thin, pliable layer.



Membranous peridium

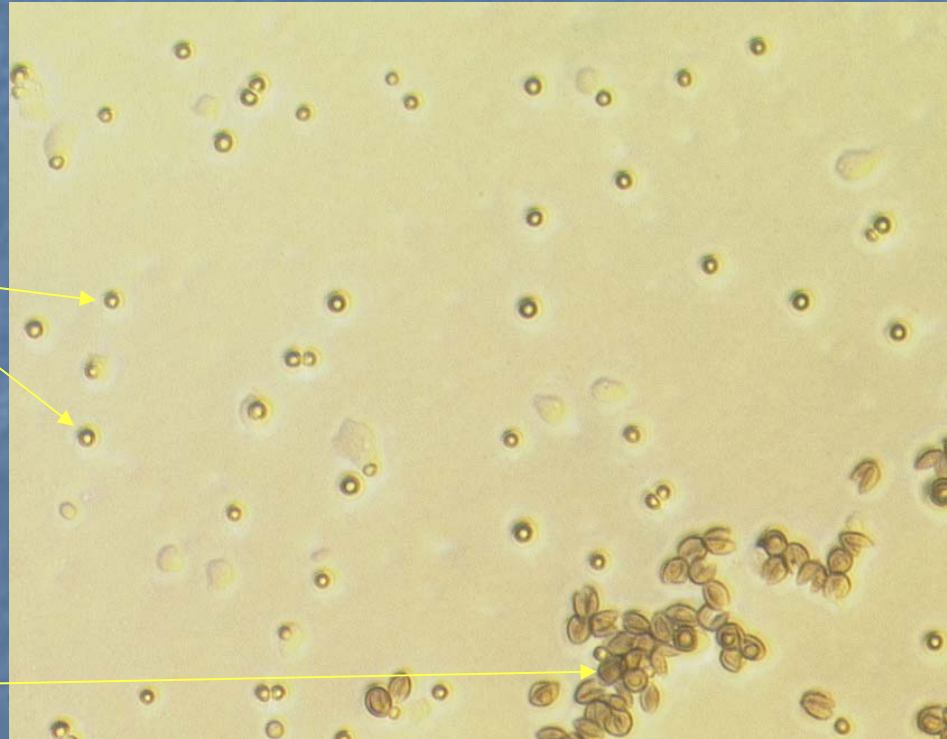
Lamproderma atrosporum

Return to E-M

Microcyst: A resistant structure formed when a myxamoeba ceases its activity and becomes dormant.

Microcysts of *Physarum pusillum* on an agar plate

Empty spore cases



Return to E-M

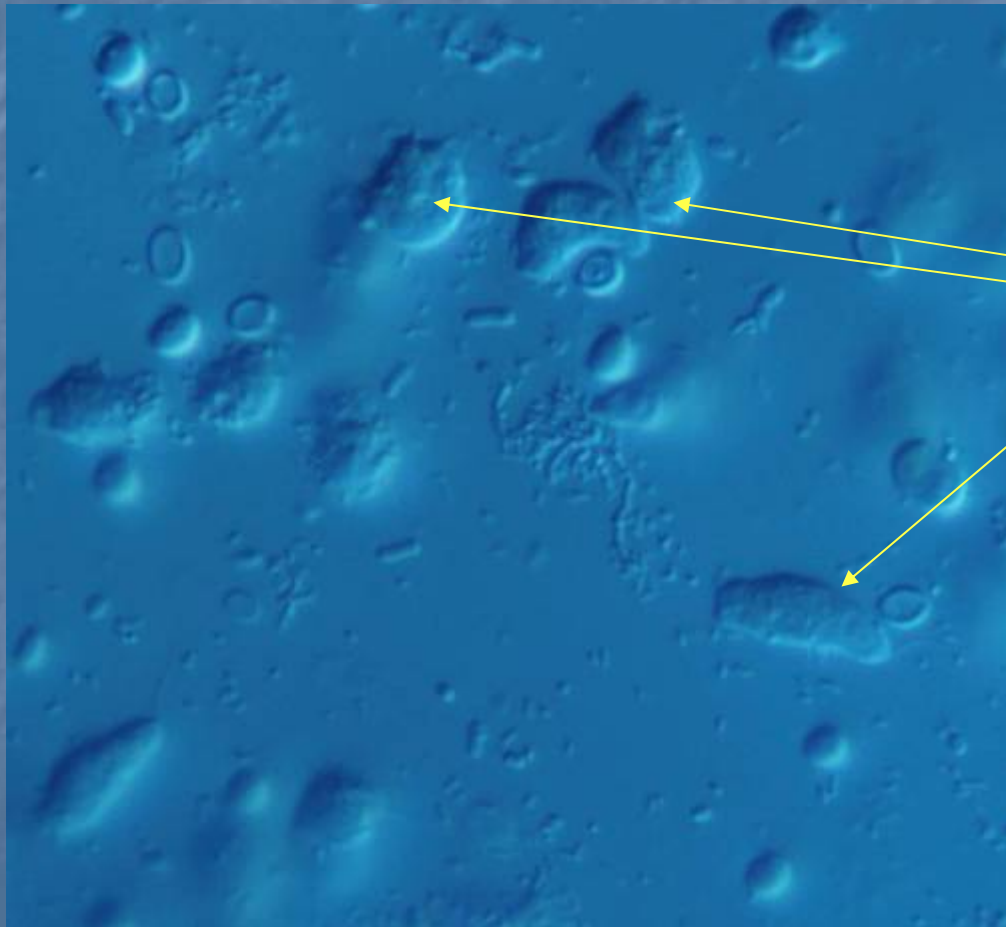
Moist chamber culture: a simple system used to isolate myxomycetes from samples of dead plant material collected in nature.



Note collection and culture data

[Return to E-M](#)

Myxamoeba (plural myxamoebae): The microscopic, uninucleate amoeboid trophic stage in the myxomycete life cycle that also may function as a gamete.



Myxamoebae

[Return to E-M](#)

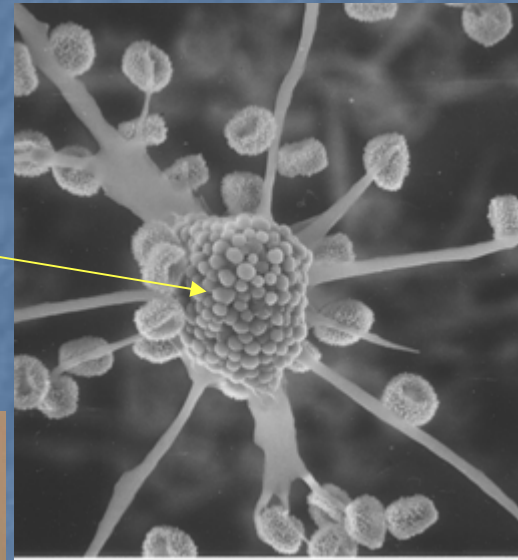
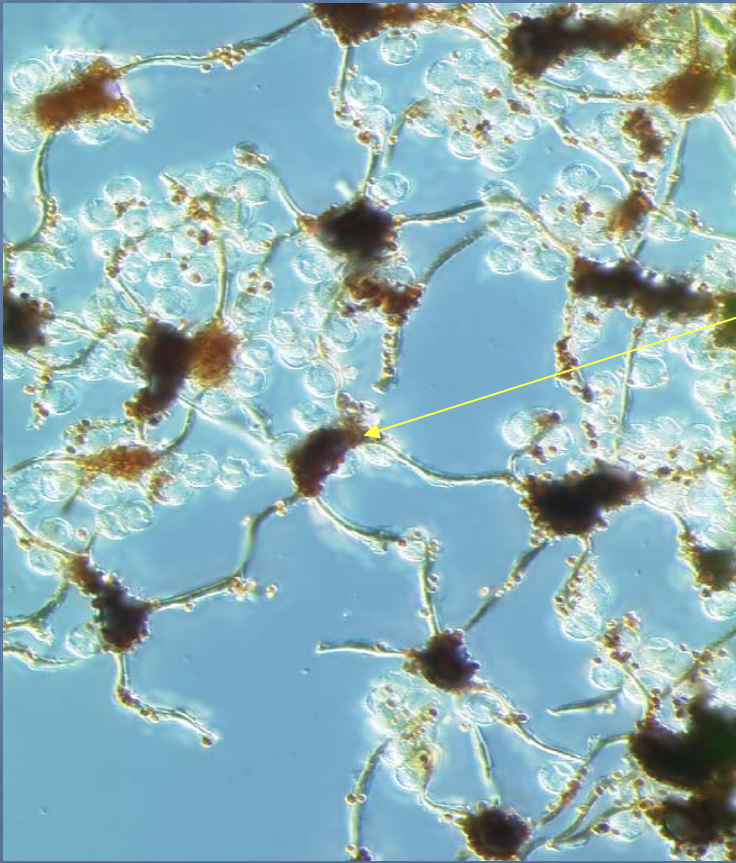
Myxomyceticolous: Living on or within the fruiting bodies of myxomycetes.



Sporangia of *Metatrachia vesparium* with the
myxomyceticolous hyphomycete
Polycephalomyces tomentosus

[Return to E-M](#)

Node: An expanded junction in the peridial net of the fruiting body in some members of the Liceales.



Return to N-Q

Obovate: Ovate with the narrow end at the base.



Badhamia utricularis

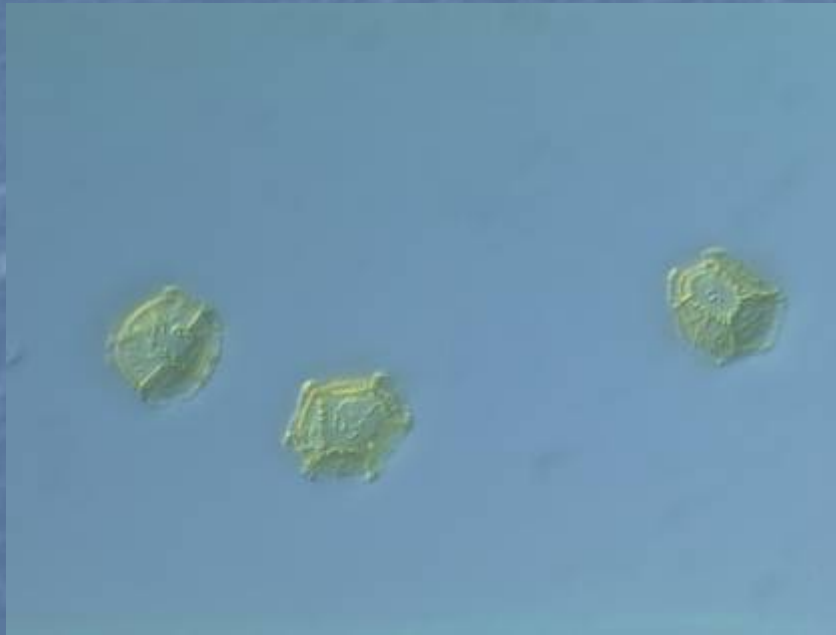
[Return to N-Q](#)

Obpyriform: Pear-shaped with the broad end uppermost.



[Return to N-Q](#)

Ochraceous: Pale yellow to reddish yellow.



Ochraceous spores of *Trichia favoginea*

[Return to N-Q](#)

Olivaceous: Dull yellowish green; the color of an olive.



Olivaceous sporangia of *Trichia decipiens*

[Return to N-Q](#)

Operculate: Having a preformed lid-like covering (operculum) over the upper portion of a sporangium.



Metatrichia vesparium



Perichaena depressa

Return to N-Q

Operculum: A lid or cover.



Operculum

Perichaena corticalis

Return to N-Q

Ovate: Egg-shaped; having the general form or shape of an egg.



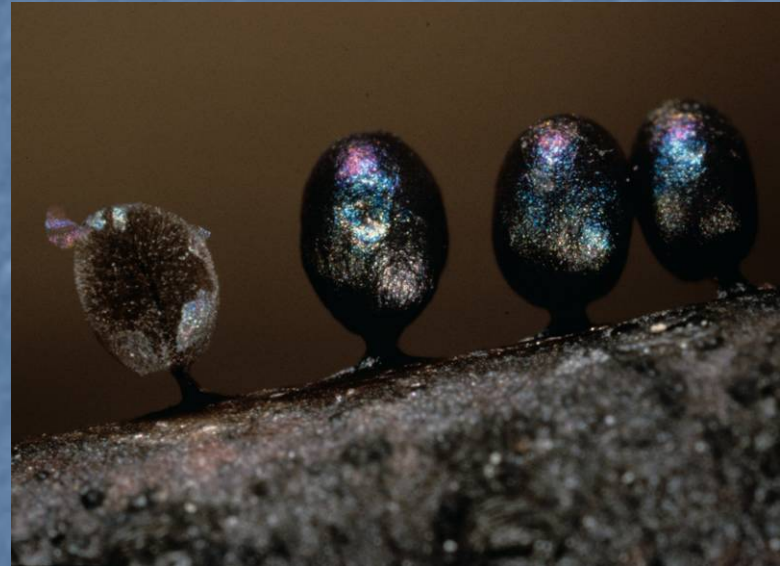
Ovate sporangia of
Leocarpus fragilis

[Return to N-Q](#)

Ovoid: Egg-shaped; usually pertaining to solid bodies.



Ovoid sporangia of
Leocarpus fragilis

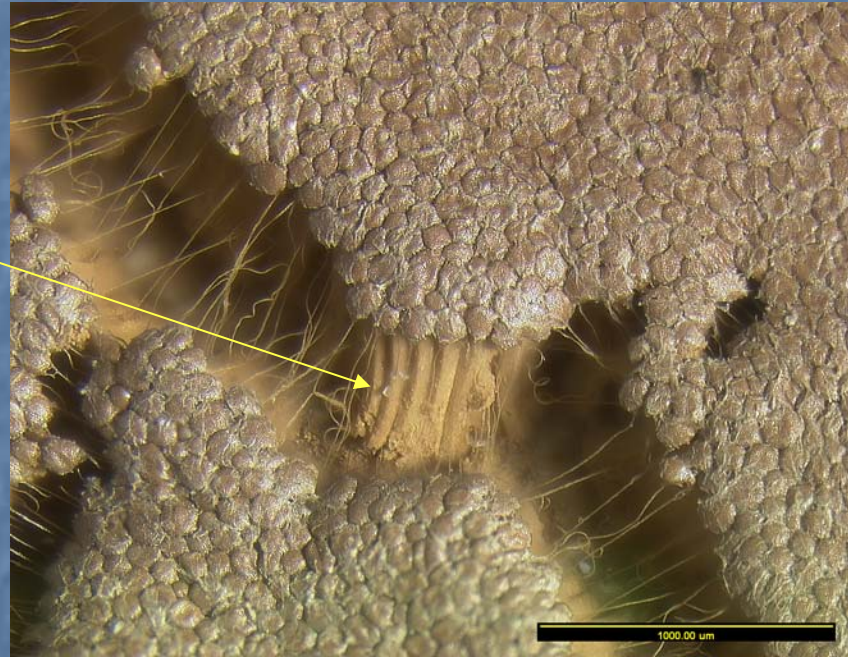


Lamproderma sp.

[Return to N-Q](#)

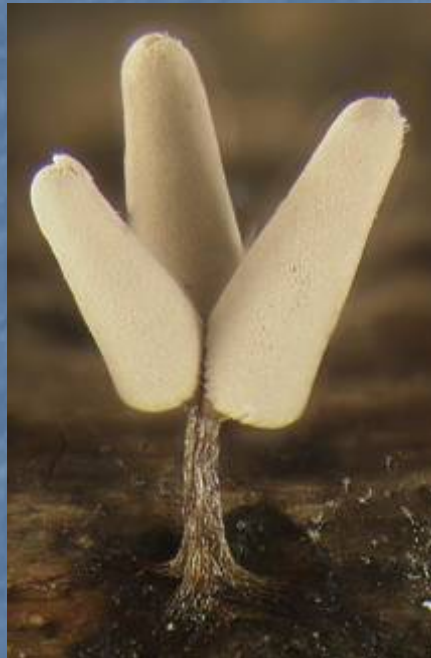
Palisade: A condition in which more or less elongated fruiting bodies or other structures are closely packed together in a perpendicular arrangement.

Palisade sporangia



[Return to N-Q](#)

Pallid: Having a pale or white appearance.



Pallid sporangia of
Arcyria cinerea

[Return to N-Q](#)

Papillate: Having a surface with one or more nipple-shaped raised areas (papillae).

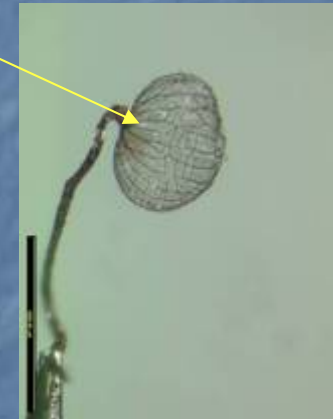


Papillate margin of a peridial plate from *Licea minima*

Return to N-Q

Peridial net: A reticulate structure formed when certain portions of the peridium persist in a mature fruiting body; characteristic of some members of the Liceales.

Peridial net



[Return to N-Q](#)

Peridium (plural peridia): The covering over the spore mass of a fruiting body.

Peridium



Return to N-Q

Perithecium (plural perithecia): Flask-shaped fruiting bodies produced by some ascomycetes.



Perithecia of ascomycetes are commonly mistaken for myxomycetes

[Return to N-Q](#)

Persistent: Retaining the original shape or structure; not breaking up or disappearing.



Persistent peridium in *Leocarpus fragilis*

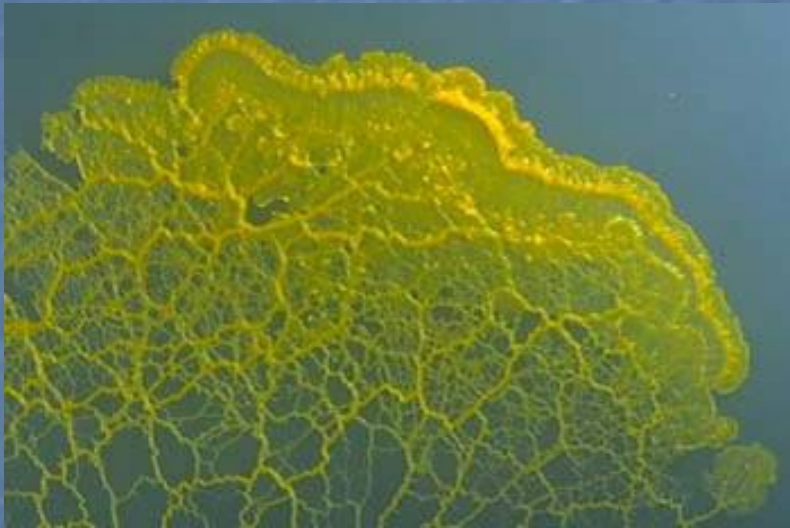
[Return to N-Q](#)

Petaloid: See Floriform.

Floriform

Return to N-Q

Phaneroplasmodium (plural phaneroplasmodia): A type of plasmodium that may be relatively large and conspicuous enough to be observed in nature; it is characterized by a fan-shaped advancing margin.



[Return to N-Q](#)

Physaroid: A type of capillitium consisting of slender noncalcareous threads connecting larger calcareous nodes.



Calcareous
nodes

Craterium leucocephalum

[Return to N-Q](#)

Plasmodic granules: See [Dictydine granules](#).

Dictydine granules

Return to N-Q

Plasmodiocarp: A sessile, branched, ring-shaped, or netted type of fruiting body formed when a plasmodium becomes concentrated in its main veins (without breaking up into smaller units) during fruiting.



Hemitrichia serpula

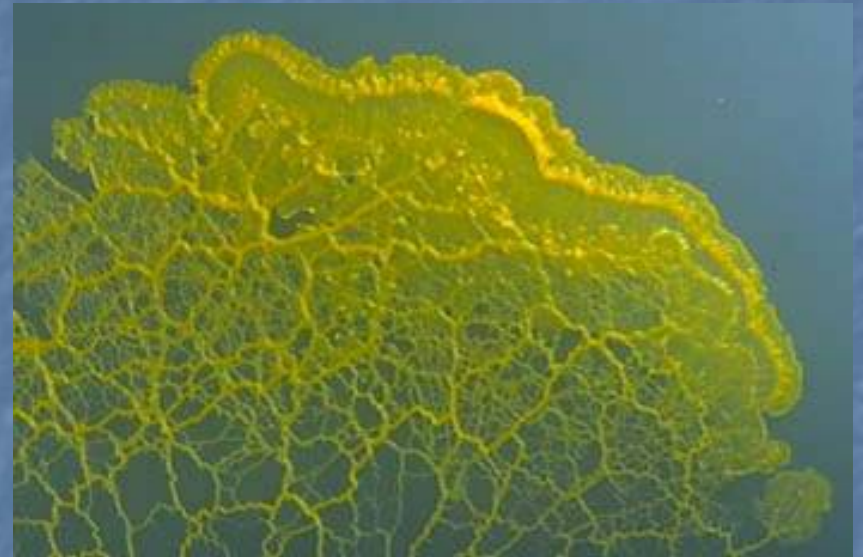
[Return to N-Q](#)

Plasmodiocarpous: Producing (or at least suggestive of) the plasmodiocarp type of fruiting body Plasmodium (plural: plasmodia): The acellular, multinucleate mass of protoplasm representing the main trophic stage in the myxomycete life cycle (see plasmodiocarp).

Plasmodiocarp

Return to N-Q

Plasmodium: (plural plasmodia): The acellular, multinucleate mass of protoplasm representing the main trophic stage in the myxomycete life cycle.



[Return to N-Q](#)

Poroid: Having more or less evident pores.



Poroid sporangia of
Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa



Scanning electron micrograph
of a developing fruiting body
of *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa*

[Return to N-Q](#)

Prolate: Elongated toward the poles.



Prolate sporangia

[Return to N-Q](#)

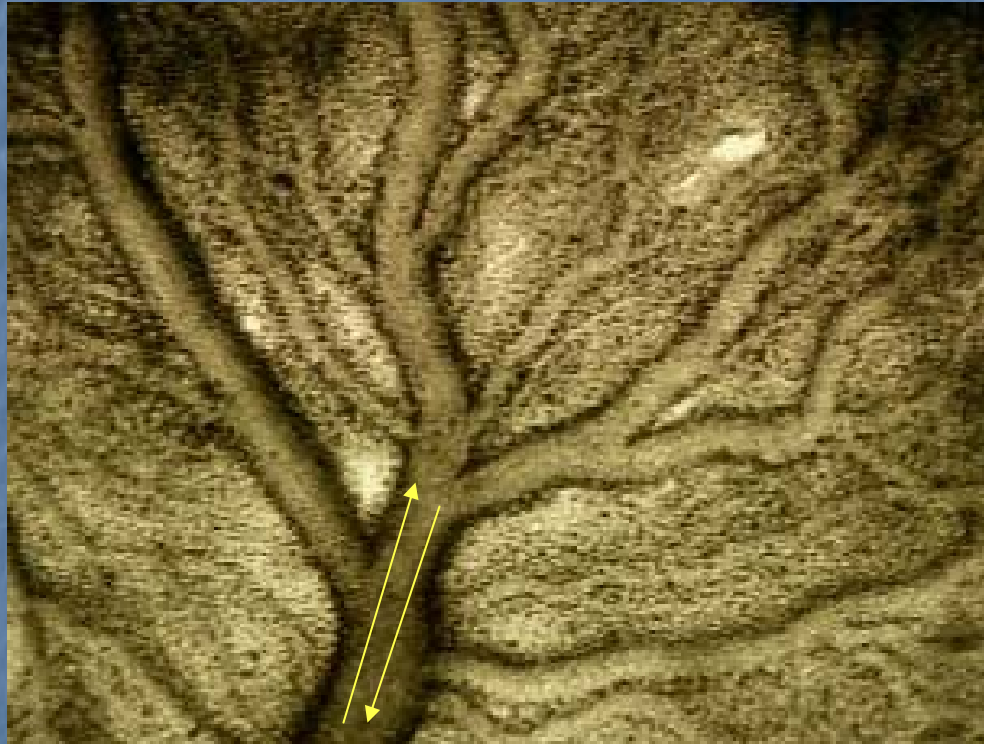
Prostrate: Lying flat on the substrate.



Perichaena quadrata

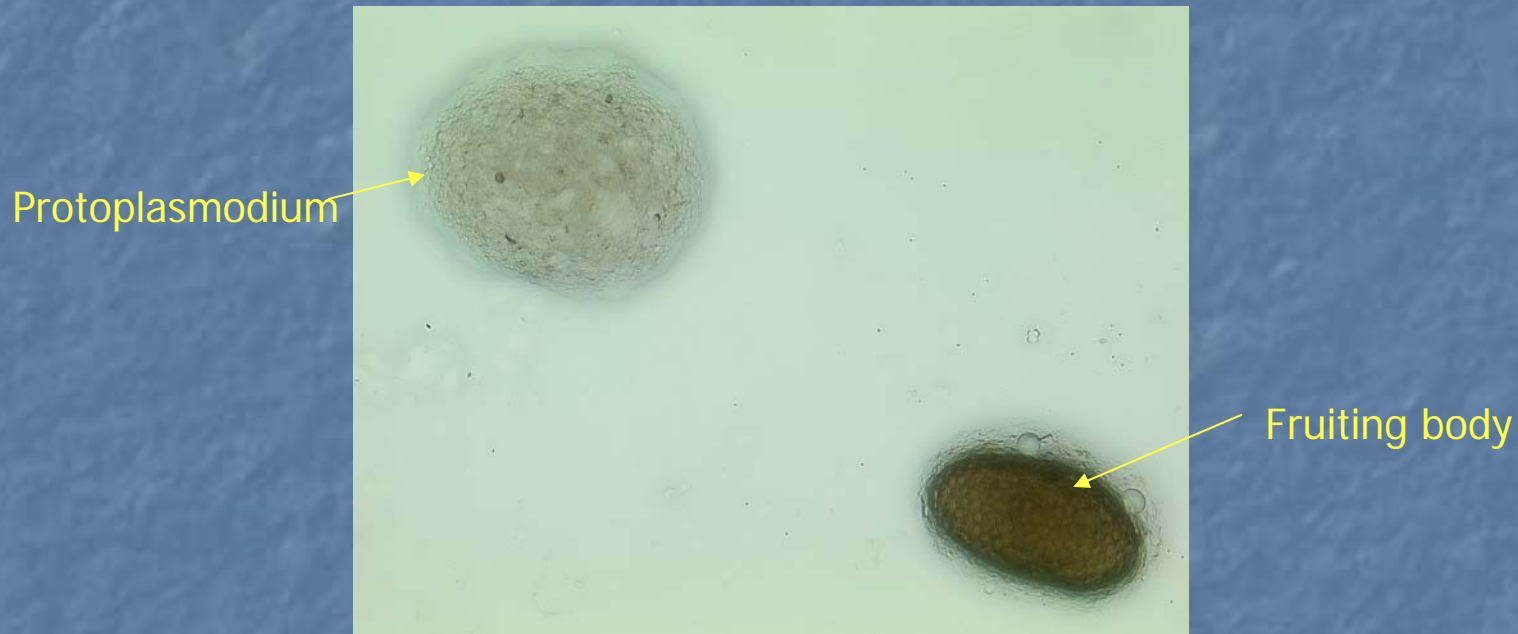
[Return to N-Q](#)

Protoplasmic streaming: Movement of the protoplasm within the plasmodium; often readily apparent in the main veins.



[Return to N-Q](#)

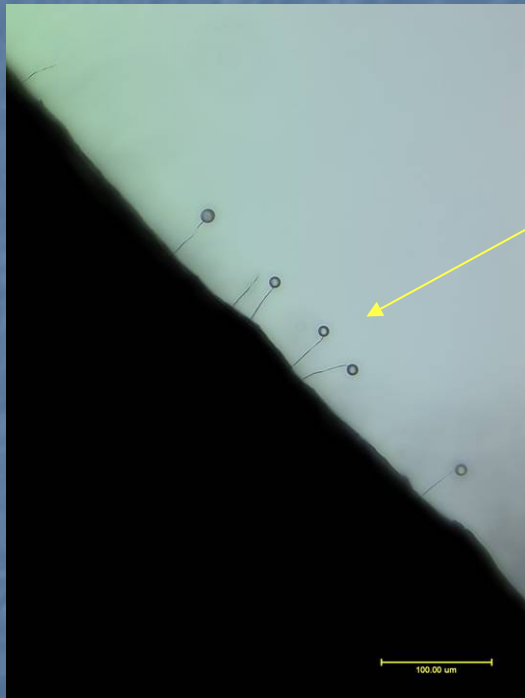
Protoplasmodium (plural protoplasmodia): A type of plasmodium that remains microscopic, forms no veins, and gives rise to only a single rather small fruiting body.



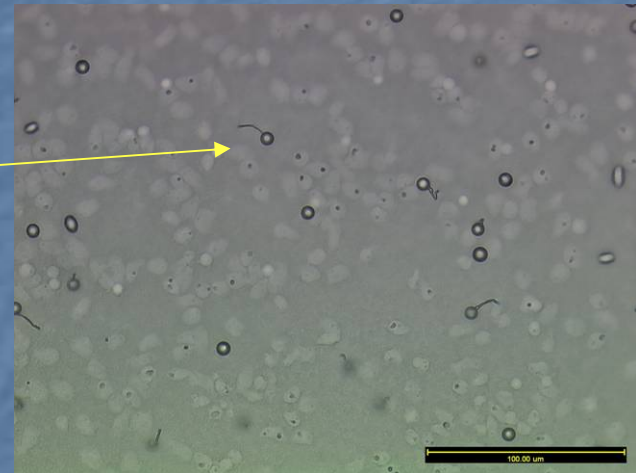
Licea biforis

Return to N-Q

Protostelids:



Protostelids



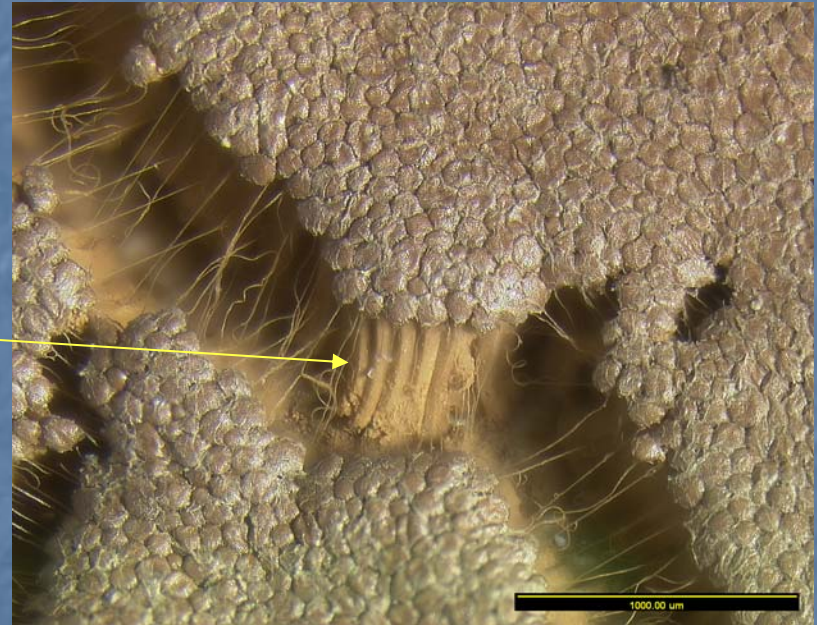
Return to N-Q

Pseudoaethaliate: Producing or suggestive of the pseudoaethalium type of fruiting body
(see [pseudoaethalium](#)).

Pseudoaethalium

[Return to N-Q](#)

Pseudoaethalium (plural pseudoaethalia): A type of fruiting body that consists of a mass of sporangia tightly packed together to resemble an aethalium.



[Return to N-Q](#)

Pseudocapillitium (plural pseudocapillitia): A system of irregular plates, tubes, or threadlike elements occurring within the spore mass of an aethalium and suggestive of a true capillitium but not formed in the same manner; characteristic of some members of Liceales.



Pseudocapillitia of *Lycogala epidendrum*



Pseudocapillitia of *Enteridium* sp.

[Return to N-Q](#)

Pseudocolumella (plural: pseudocolumellae): A spherical to irregular lime mass more or less centrally located within the spore mass and consisting of a single discrete body or a loose aggregation of smaller units.



Pseudocolumella



[Return to N-Q](#)

Pseudoplasmodium (plural: pseudoplasmodia): A multicellular mass produced during the life cycle of a cellular slime mold.

Pseudoplasmodium of
Dictyostelium sp.



[Return to N-Q](#)

Pulverulent: Having a surface that appears powdery.



Pulverulent peridium of
Didymium squamulosum

Return to N-Q

Pulvinate: Cushion-shaped; having the general shape of a small cushion.



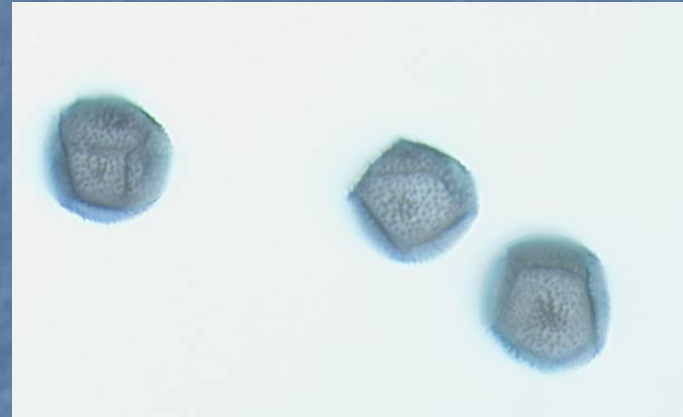
Pulvinate fruiting bodies of
Didymium ochroideum

[Return to N-Q](#)

Punctate: Having a surface marked with very small warts or tiny depressions.



Punctate spores of
Stemonitis fusca



Punctate spores with ridges
of *Badhamia gracilis*

[Return to N-Q](#)

Pyriform: Pear-shaped.



Pyriform sporangia of
Lamproderma sp.

[Return to N-Q](#)

Recurved: Curving downward or backward.

Recurved peridium



Return to R-Z

Reniform: Kidney-shaped.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Reticulate: Netted; having a surface covered with a network of spines, warts, or ridges.



*Perichaena
echinospora*

Reticulate spores



Trichia favoginea

[Return to R-Z](#)

Revolute: Having a margin that is rolled back or up.

Revolute peridium



[Return to R-Z](#)

Rugose: Wrinkled; having a surface marked by coarse wrinkles.



Rugose stalks

Return to R-Z

Saprophagous: Feeding upon nonliving organic matter.
Typical of true fungi such as the one seen here.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Sclerotium (plural sclerotia): A dormant, hardened structure formed from the plasmodium under unfavorable environmental conditions.



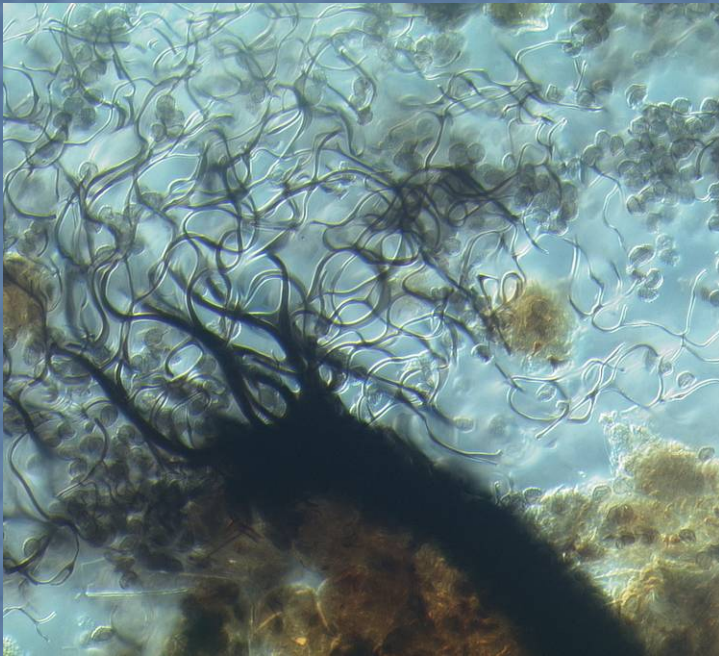
[Return to R-Z](#)

Sessile: Lacking a stalk; attached directly to the substrate.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Sinuuous: Wavy; having curves, bends, or turns.



Sinuuous capillitium of
Lamproderma arcyronema

[Return to R-Z](#)

Solitary: Occurring alone on the substrate.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Sorocarp: The fruiting body produced by a cellular slime mold.



Sorocarp of *Dictyostelium discoideum*

[Return to R-Z](#)

Spinulose: Having a surface marked with small spines.



Spinulose capillitium of
Metatrachia vesparium

[Return to R-Z](#)

Spiny: See Echinate.

Echinate

Return to R-Z

Sporangiate: Producing or suggestive of the sporangium type of fruiting body (see sporangium).



Sporangium



[Return to R-Z](#)

Sporangium (plural sporangia): A type of fruiting body formed when a plasmodium breaks up into a number of small portions, each of which develops into a single stalked or sessile unit; a small plasmodium may form only one sporangium.



Lepidoderma tigrinum



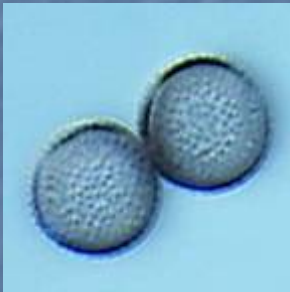
Physarum nucleatum



Hemitrachia clavata

[Return to R-Z](#)

Spore: A resistant microscopic reproductive structure produced in the fruiting body of a myxomycete.



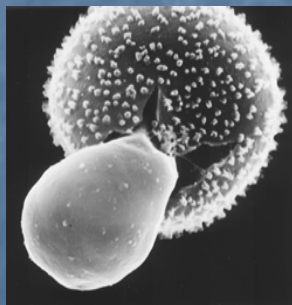
Stemonitis fusca



*Perichaena
echinospora*



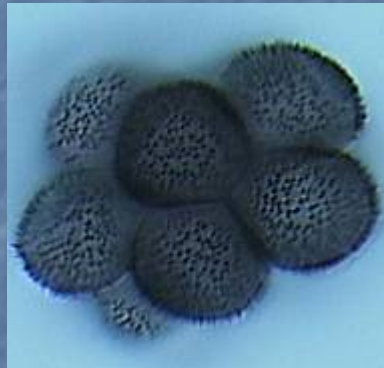
Trichia favogenia



Fuligo septica
spore germinating

[Return to R-Z](#)

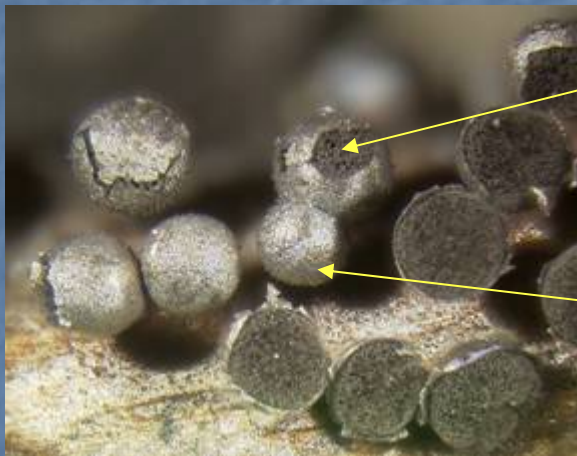
Spore ball: A group of spores joined closely together; characteristic of some members of the genus *Badhamia* and a few other myxomycetes.



Badhamia
nitens

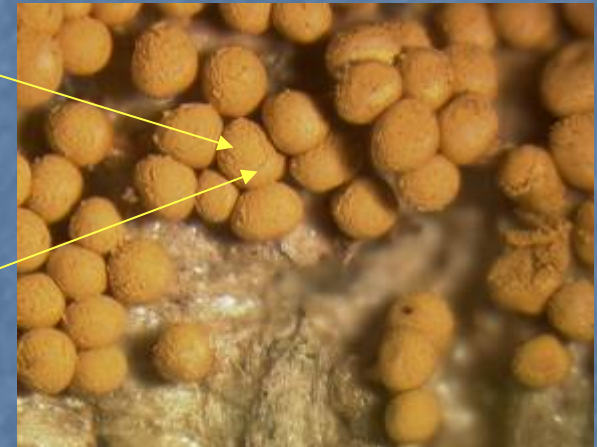
[Return to R-Z](#)

Spore mass: All the spores within a single fruiting body when considered collectively.



Spore mass
with capillitium

Peridium



Return to R-Z

Sporophore: See Fruiting body.

Fruiting body

Return to R-Z

Sporulate: To undergo sporulation (see sporulation).

Sporulation

Return to R-Z

Sporulation: The fruiting process in which a plasmodium is transformed into one or more fruiting bodies.



Sporulation in *Stemonitis axifera*

Return to R-Z

Stalk: A structure supporting the spore mass, which often is elevated some distance above the substrate; also called a stipe.



Stalk

Return to R-Z

Stellate: Star-shaped; having the general appearance of a star.



Diderma asteroides

[Return to R-Z](#)

Stipe: See stalk.

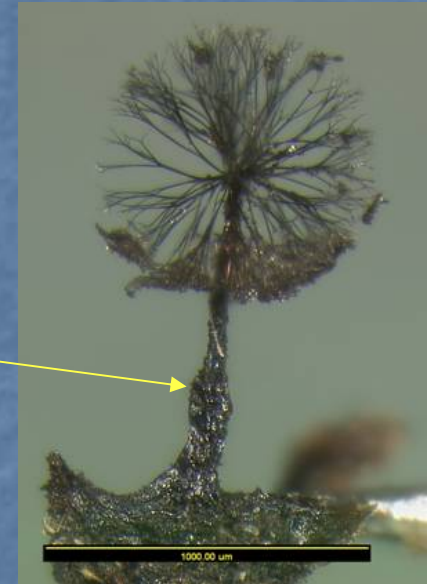
Stalk

Return to R-Z

Stipitate: Stalked; having a definite stalk.



Stipe or
Stalk



Return to R-Z

Striate: Marked with fine parallel ridges.



Striate stalks

[Return to R-Z](#)

Subcylindrical: Somewhat cylindrical.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Subglobose: Not quite globose.



Didymium leoninum

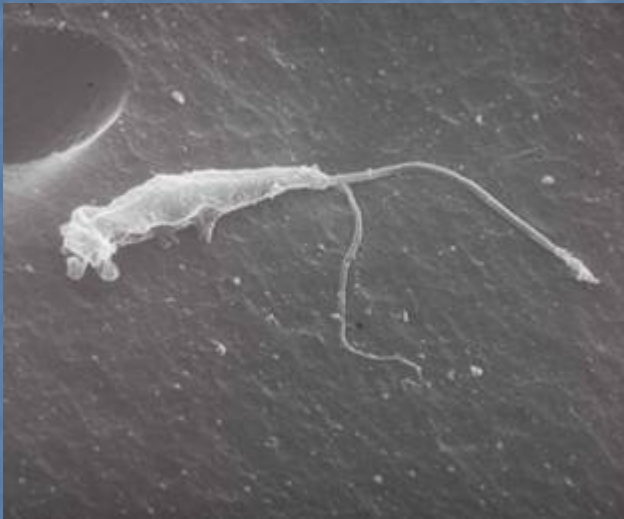
[Return to R-Z](#)

Surface net: A well-defined, often highly branched and anastomosing peripheral network found just beneath the peridium, where it arises from the tips of the capillitial branches; characteristic of the genus *Stemonitis*.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Swarm cell: The microscopic, uninucleate flagellated trophic stage in the myxomycete life cycle that also may function as a gamete.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Terete: More or less round in cross section; cylindrical.



Terete sporangia of
Stemonitis nigra

[Return to R-Z](#)

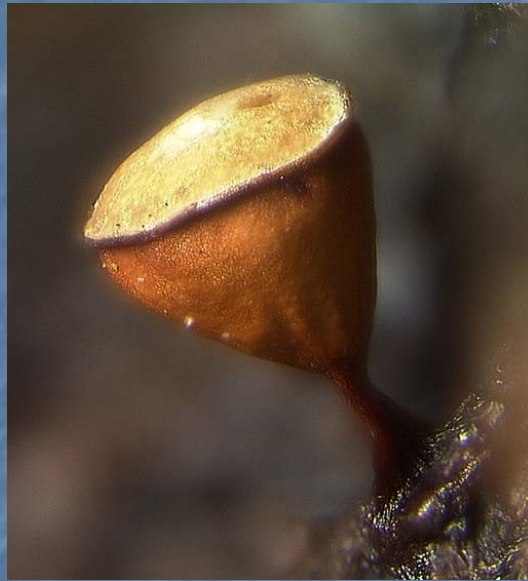
Tessellate: Having a surface marked with a mosaic design.



Tessellate peridium

[Return to R-Z](#)

Truncate: Square or broad at the end as if cut off.



[Return to R-Z](#)

Turbinate: Top-shaped.



Craterium aureum

[Return to R-Z](#)

Umbilicate: Having a depression or invagination at the base of the spore mass where the stalk is attached.



[Return to R-Z](#)

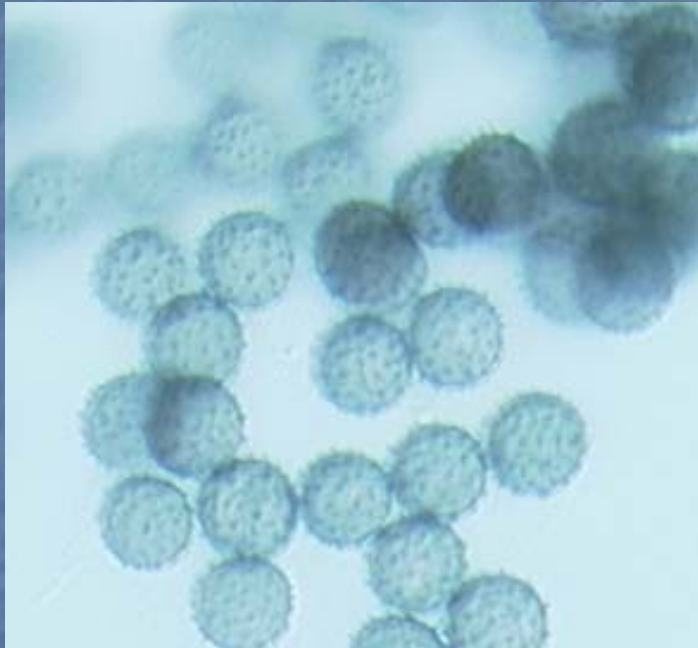
Venulose: Having small veins.

Venulose hypothallus of
Physarum pusillum



Return to R-Z

Verrucose: Warted; having a surface marked with warts.



Cluster of verrucose spores
of *Badhamia nitens*

[Return to R-Z](#)

Verruculose: Minutely verrucose; very delicately warted.



Verruculose spores of
Stemonitis fusca

[Return to R-Z](#)

Violaceous: Bluish purple; the color of violets.

NOTE: Colors may vary depending on monitor calibration



Sporangium of
Cribraria violacea

[Return to R-Z](#)

Warted: Having a surface marked with small protuberances or raised areas.



Warted spores of
Stemonitis fusca



Cluster of warted spores of
Badhamia nitens

[Return to R-Z](#)

Appreciation is extended to Clive Shirley, Randy Darrah, Lora Lindley-Settlemyre, Ray Simons, Satyendra Rajguru, Fred Spiegel, George Barron and Emily Johnson for contributing images that were used to prepare this presentation.