A New Species of *Chaetomium* From Soil in Nova Scotia*

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During the summers of 1967, 1968 and 1969, a species of *Chaetomium (Chaetomiaceae, Ascomycetes)* was isolated a number of times from the soil from permanent pasture at Nappan, Nova Scotia. These isolates did not agree with any previously published description, thus a new species is proposed. The species has strongly umbonate spores, which are reminiscent of those of *C. flavum* Omvik, but they are smaller. The fungus was grown on 2% malt agar for characterization.

Chaetomium umbonatum Brewer sp. nov.

Peritheciis superficialibus, atro-brunneis, globosis vel subglobosis, 255-285μ, ostiolatis. Pilis terminalibus longis, sinuatis vel solute convolutis in totum, basi latis 2.5-3μ, galbanis, eseptatis, cum granulis luteis vestitis. Pilis lateralibus undulatis, basi latis 3μ, cum granulis luteis vestitis. Ascis octosporis, clavatis, 43-49 (46.5) x 10-13.5 (11)μ. Ascosporis biseriatis, olivaceo-brunneis, inequaliter liminoformis, utrinque fortiter umbonatis, 8.5-10 x 5-6μ, a latere depressis, saepe in cirrhos prolatis. HOLOTYPUS: ex terra cultus, Nova Scotia, 1967. In Herbario IMI (138895); siccus ex vitro.

Perithecia superficial, dark brown, globose to subglobose, 255-285μ, ostiolate. Terminal hairs very long, sinuous to loosely coiled for entire length, 2.5-3μ wide at base, greenish-yellow, non-septate, covered with yellow granules. Lateral hairs undulate, 3μ wide at base, covered with yellow granules. Ascus 8-spored, club-shaped, 43-49 (46.5) x 10-13.5(11)μ. Ascospores biseriate, olive brown, irregular lemon shape, strongly umbonate at both ends, 8.5-10 x 5-6.5μ, compressed in side view, often forming cirrhi.

HOLOTYPE: isolated from soil, Nova Scotia, 1967. Dried specimen deposited in the herbarium at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute (Herb IMI 138895).

Cultures on malt agar grow rapidly. Initially the aerial mycelium is sparse, but as the cultures age, they may become somewhat overgrown with greyish-white hyphae. The cultures of some isolates rapidly become overgrown with yellowish-brown mycelium. Subsequent sub-cultures from these may be non-fruiting and the agar medium develops a deep golden-brown coloration.

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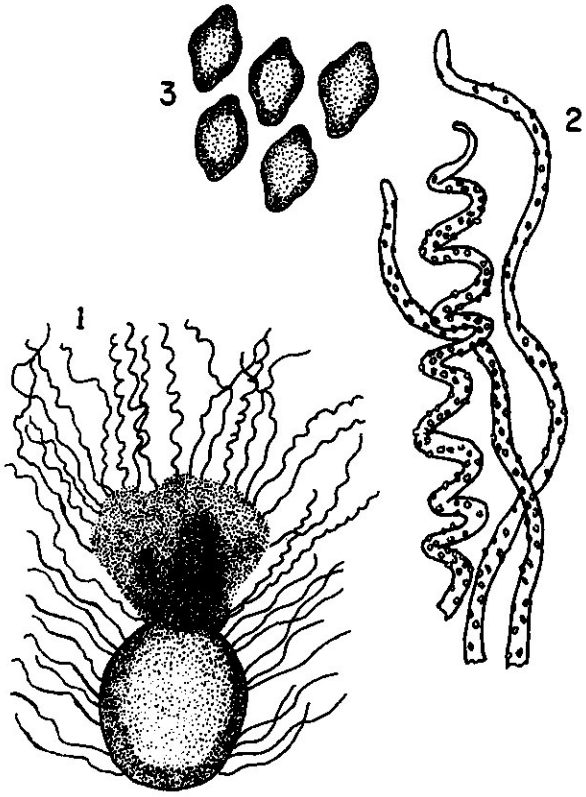

1. *Perithecium of Chaetomium umbonatum* x 65.
2. Terminal hairs x 600.
3. Ascospores x 1050.