

Tomentella ramosissima

(Berk. & M.A. Curtis) Wakef.

Figures 1–6

Zygodesmus ramosissimus Berk. & M.A. Curtis 1875 [1 : 145] FH! ≡
Tomentella ramosissima (Berk. & M.A. Curtis) Wakef. 1960 [2 : 927]

Basidiome effused, adherent to loosely adherent, separable in granules or small pieces when dry, soft membranaceous, up to 0.3 mm thick.

Hymenial surface discontinuous, tufted or granulose to continuous, very finely porulose to almost smooth, yellowish brown to brown (10YR 6–4/3–4), old parts may become dark to very dark brown (10YR 3–2/3).

Subiculum poorly developed, araneous, hypochnoid to tomentose, dark brown to very dark rusty brown (10 YR 3/3–2/2), normally distinctly darker than the active growing hymenium.

Margin sterile or almost so to fertile throughout, shortly thinning out, concolorous with the subiculum.

Rhizomorphs absent.

Hyphal system monomitic; most hyphae with fibulate primary septa, some scattered simple septa may be present in subicular hyphae.

Subicular hyphae loosely arranged, sinuous, near the substratum becoming almost straight and infrequently branched, (4) 5–8 (10) µm wide, cross-shape branching and anastomoses infrequent, becoming thick-walled (1–2 µm), sometimes with some localized thickenings and rarely showing stratified walls, yellowish brown to dark brown.

Subhymenial hyphae mostly regular, relatively short-celled, (4) 5–8 (10) µm wide, sinuous, cross-shape branching frequent, in subhymenium mostly hyaline with thin wall, turning ochraceous or brownish and with thickening walls in deep subhymenium.

Cystidia absent.

Basidia mostly subclavate to cylindrical with a faint median compression, sinuous, indistinctly utriform, 30–60×8.5–10.5 µm at top, 6–8.5 (10) µm at the lower middle; 4 sterigmata up to 8 µm long and 1.5–2.5 µm

wide at the base, subhyaline when in active growing hymenium, often with ochraceous content in older parts.

Basidiospores with irregular, sinuous to slightly lobed outline; lateral face irregularly ellipsoid; frontal face irregularly ellipsoid-ovoid to slightly pyriform; polar face mostly irregularly globose, 7–9 (10)×6–7.5 (8)×7–8.5 (9) μm , $Q^1 = 1.1\text{--}1.25$ (1.3), $Q^2 = 1\text{--}1.15$, echinulate, yellowish brown, sometimes entirely or partly greyish or dark brown, often with a large guttula; aculei 1–2 (2.5) μm long and 0.4–0.8 μm wide at the base, single, tapering.

Chlamydospores absent.

Incrustation: presence of granules and resinous matter often dark brown (but sometime also bluish) in water that partially dissolve in KOH, often leaving a diffuse greyish blue hue and sometimes also dark grey-blue-lilac parts.

Chemical reactions: IKI: spore **apiculus amyloid**. CB: inconsistent. KOH: hyphae and elements loosing yellow hue to become slightly more darker; presence of adhering matter that turn slate to dark grey-blue-lilac in some parts of the hymenium; a faint cyanescent diffusate can be detected in presence of air.

Specimens examined

USA — **Michigan** – University of Michigan Biological Station, Grapevine Point, on decayed wood of *Populus* sp., leg. M.J. Larsen, 10.IX.1969 (CFMR MJL-3717) — **South Carolina** – Society Hill, on *Pinus* sp., leg. M.A. Curtis, II.1849, holotype of *Zygodesmus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis (FH: M.A. Curtis 2274)

Materials and methods

Specimens sampling and methodological details are described separately in this issue:

Excerpts from *Crusts & Fella*, n° 0

References

- [1] BERKELEY, M.J. (1875). ‘Notices of North American fungi (continued from page 112)’. *Grevillea*, 3 (28): 145–160. URL: <http://www.cybertruffle.org.uk/cyberliber/59649/0003/028/0145.htm>
- [2] WAKEFIELD, E.M. (1960). ‘Some species of *Tomentella* from North America’. *Mycologia*, 52 (6): 919–933. DOI: [10.2307/3755852](https://doi.org/10.2307/3755852)



Fig. 1: Dried basidiome. Image width = 35 mm [CFMR MJL-3717]

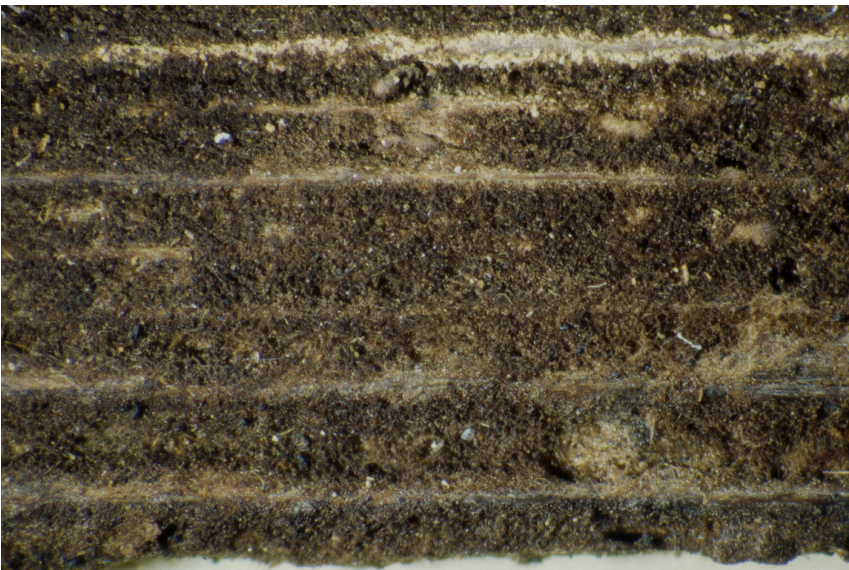


Fig. 2: Basidiome; ex holotype of *Zygodesmus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis. Image width = 9 mm [FH: M.A. Curtis 2274]



Fig. 3: Basidiome; ex holotype of *Zygodesmus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis. Image width = 9 mm [FH: M.A. Curtis 2274]

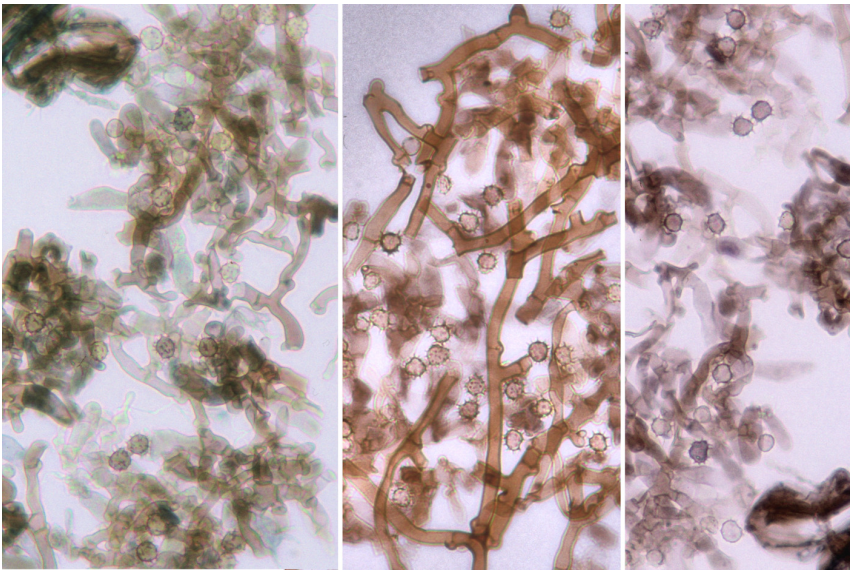


Fig. 4: Mounts in KOH; ex holotype of *Zygodesmus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis [FH: M.A. Curtis 2274]

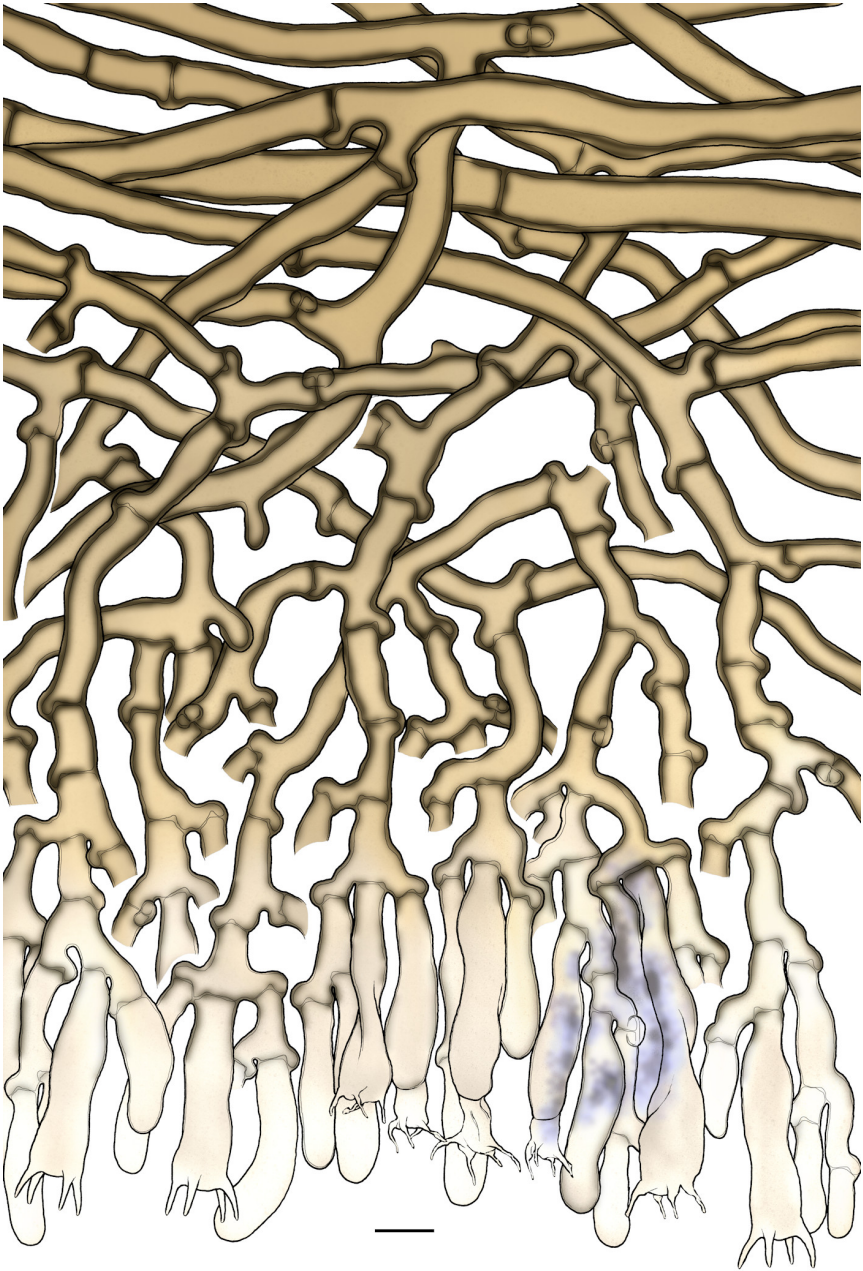


Fig. 5: Simplified vertical section of the basidiome; ex holotype of *Zygodermus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis. Bar = 10 μ m [FH: M.A. Curtis 2274]

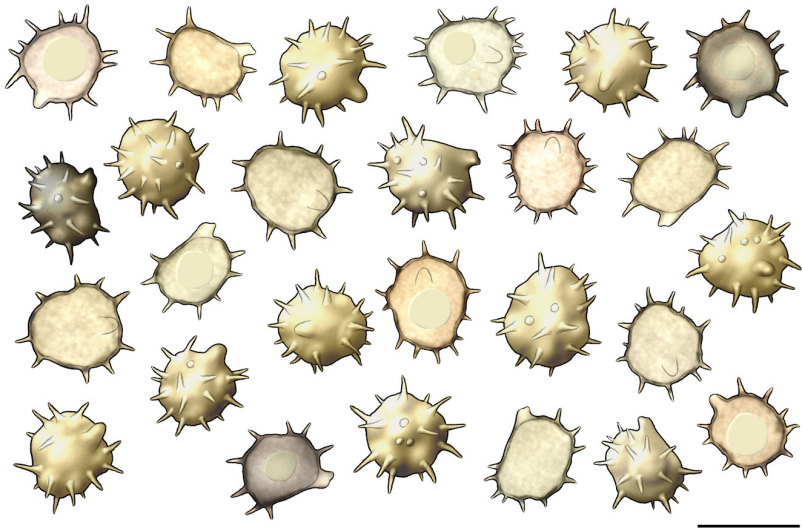


Fig. 6: Basidiospores; ex holotype of *Zygodesmus ramosissimus* Berk. & M.A. Curtis. Bar = 10 μ m [FH: M.A. Curtis 2274]



Excerpts from *Crusts & Tells*

Descriptions and reports of resupinate Aphyllophorales and Heterobasidiomycetes

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