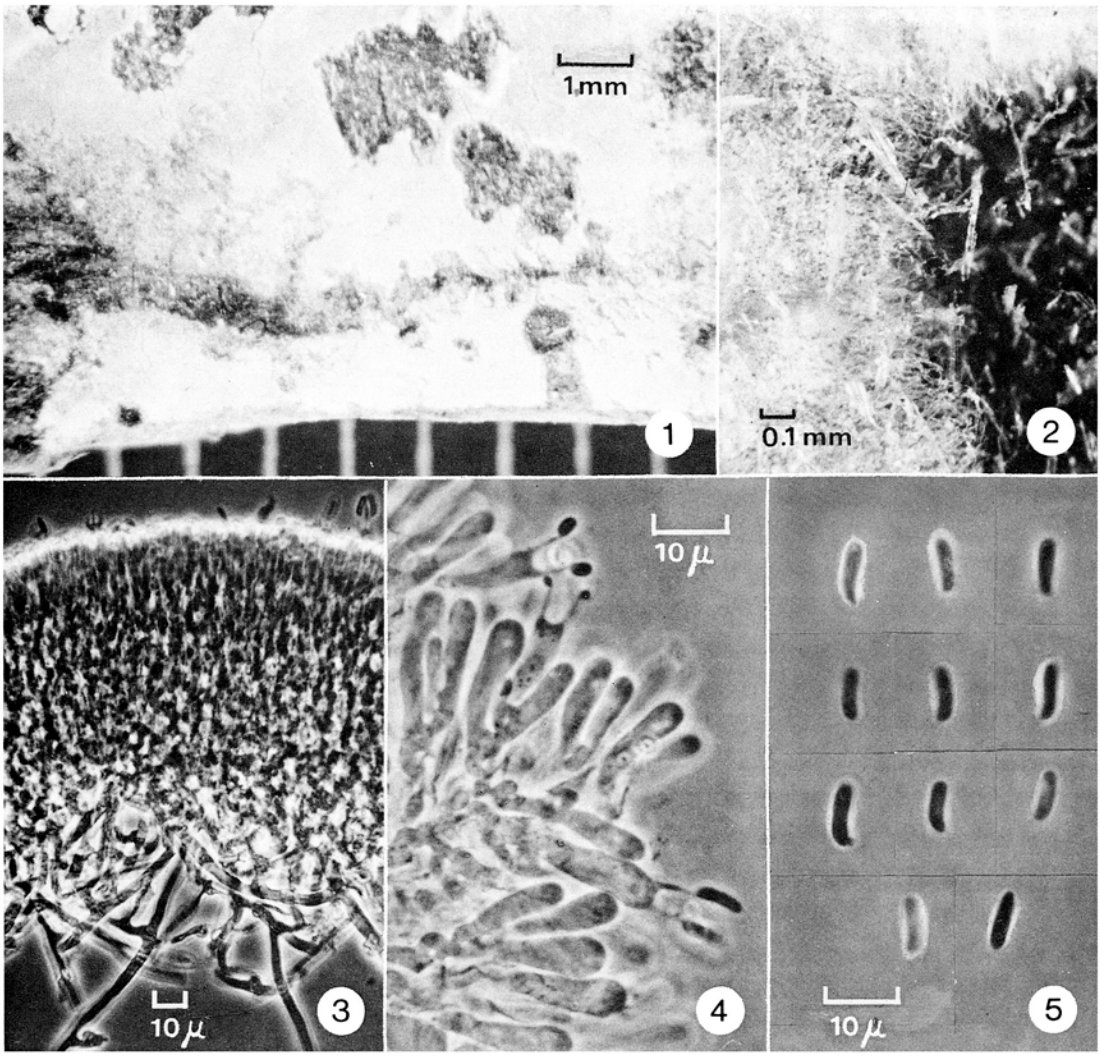
AMYLOCORTICIUM CEBENNENSE



1, Basidiocarp with mature hymenium, ca × 10; 2, margin, ca × 40; 3, basidiocarp in section, ca × 400; 4, hymenium, ca × 1000; 5, basidiospores, ca × 1000. Figs. 1, 2 and 3, of DAOM F7185; fig. 4, DAOM 10422; fig. 5, DAOM 100173B.

Amylocorticium cebennense (Bourd.) Pouzar, Česká Mykol. 13: 11. 1959.
≡*Corticium cebennense* Bourdot, Rev. Scient. Bourb. Centre France 23: 9. 1910.

BASIDIOCARPS usually patchy, sometimes broadly effused, mature surface soft, uniformly smooth (except for feathery cracks), white, often drying to 'Ivory' (10B2 in Maerz & Paul, Dict. of Color, 1950), with overmature or bruised areas sometimes warming to 'Sunburst' (10K9); margin byssoid to very delicately fibrillose, white; total depth rarely up to 300μ; separable from substrate. Effect of KOH: becoming translucent, then drying greyish.

SUBICULUM loose, as much as 150μ deep; hyphae hyaline, uniform in diam., mainly 4-6μ, wall firm to somewhat thickened, prominent clamps at every septum, branches frequent and at right angles, typically though not exclusively from clamp cell; interseptal hyphal fusions frequent. SUBHYMENIUM dense; hyphae hyaline, more closely branched and narrower (ca 2.5-4μ diam.) than subicular hyphae, wall thin, septa clamped throughout. HYMENIUM compact and homogeneous, single depth along with closely intertwined subhymenium 40-60μ; sometimes thickening, with zonate deposition of spores. CYSTIDIA none. BASIDIA clearly sympodial, clavate, 20-30(-40)μ long, 4-6μ broad toward the apex, with sometimes 2, usually 4, sterigmata, these arched or straight, 3.5-6(-7)μ long. BASIDIOSPORES hyaline, thin-walled, amyloid, narrowly cylindrical to vaguely ovoid in back view, allantoid in profile, (4.5-)6-7.8(-8.5) × 1.5-2(-2.5)μ, ratio of length/width (2.8-)3.2-4(-4.5)/1.

SUBSTRATE: downed wood, mainly of coniferous trees, also deciduous.

DISTRIBUTION: Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia.

COLLECTIONS: N.S.: King's Co., Kentville Ravine, on stump of *Abies balsamea*, 22.X.1953, DAOM 31051 (K.A. Harrison 2807). Que.: Duchesnay For. Sta., 3.IX.1959, on ?*Acer* sp., DAOM 53548 (L.K. Weresub) and on conifer, DAOM 53625 (L.K.W.). Ont.: Ottawa, Rifle Ranges, on conifer, 17.IX.1936, DAOM F7185 (R. Macrae); Chalk R., Petawawa For. Res., 12.IX.1939, DAOM 10422 (H.S. Jackson, TRTC 14347); Algonquin Park, Mileage 15, on *Abies balsamea*, 15.IX.1939, DAOM 151609 (H.S.J., TRTC 14105); Algonquin Park, Pine Tree L., on *Pinus*, 16.IX.1939, DAOM 151610 (H.S.J., TRTC 14264); west of Algonquin Park, Oxtongue L., on wood of deciduous tree, 14.X.1940, DAOM 151611 (H.S.J., TRTC 16409). B.C.: Makinson's Flats, on *Pinus monticola*, 25.VI.1947, DAOM 17627 (P.J. Salisbury, DAVFP 2680); Vancouver Is.: L. Cowichan, North Arm, on *Thuja plicata*, DAOM 16206 (J.E. Bier, DAVFP 449); Beaver L., on wood of deciduous tree, 19.VI.1948, DAOM 52674 (W.G. Ziller, DAVFP 3627); Thetis L. Park, on *Arbutus menziesii*, 6.IX.1961, DAOM 100173B (W.B. Kendrick).

NOTES: Reported from France by Bourdot (loc. cit.), Bourdot & Galzin (Hyménomycètes de France, 1928), and Boidin (Rev. de Myc., mém. hors-série 6, 1958), from Czechoslovakia by Pouzar (loc. cit.), Denmark by Christiansen (Dansk Bot. Arkiv 19 (2), 1960), New Zealand by Cunningham (Thelephoraceae of Australia and New Zealand, 1963), Northern Europe in general by Eriksson & Ryvarden (The Corticiaceae of North Europe, 2, 1973) and the U.S.S.R. specifically by Parmasto (Conspect. Syst. Corticiacearum, 1968), this fungus has apparently escaped North American reports. In addition to the Canadian collections cited here, there exists a collection at DAOM (72441) from Indiana, testifying to the presence of this species south of the 49th parallel as well.

DAOM F7158 is historically interesting as heralding the recognition of the fungus on this continent: in a letter dated May 8, 1939, H.S. Jackson applauded M.K. Nobles's 1936 determination with the comment: "Good! New to me and to North America."

Reid (Rev. de Biologia 5: 141-143, 1965), comparing authentic material of *Corticium rhodoleucum* Bourd. with *C. cebennense*, concluded that the distinctions given by Bourdot (Rev. Scient. Bourb. Centre France, 1922: 14) and Bourdot & Galzin (op. cit. 1928: 189) are inadequate for separating the two. Boidin (op. cit. 1958: 58) expressed the opinion that *C. rhodoleucum* might be "une forme bisporique parthénogénétique du *C. cebennense* Bourdot ou d'une espèce très voisine". I have no personal experience with *C. rhodoleucum*, but the color ascribed to it makes me question synonymy, for, from what I know of *A. cebennense*, I tend to stress, with Bourdot, "il est blanc dans toutes ces parties".

It is this characteristic whiteness of hymenial surface, subiculum and margin, along with the relatively slender spores, that makes *A. cebennense* clearly distinct from other amylocorticiums (cf. Fungi Canadenses No. 45).

Luella K. Weresub

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April, 1976