

Apiosordaria verruculosa var. maritima (Apinis & Chesters) v. Arx & Gams

Substrate: Perameles gunnii dung = Eastern barred bandicoot dung

Ann's comment – “Lots of insect pieces in dung”. Comment from Barbara Triggs, author of “Tracks, Scats and other Traces” A Field Guide to Australian Mammals (Oxford Univ. Press, 1996): p. 166 “Bandicoots & Bilbies eat mainly insects and other invertebrates, and fine particles of these can be seen in a broken scat. **Soil is ingested as the invertebrates are dug up from the ground**, and the soil particles colour the scats brown or black. ...The Bilby and most bandicoots eat some plant material as well as insects, so fibrous material is also found in their scats.” My comment: based on the bandicoot eating habit and the substrate reports given on p. 50 of Domsch, Gams and Anderson's 1980 Compendium of Soil Fungi, this Apiosordaria may be primarily a soil form. According to the “Compendium”, both varieties of A. verruculosa have been isolated primarily from soil – but also from dung and other substrates. Both varieties also are reported to break down cellulose and lignin – and, in fact, the species in question was found in incubation moist-chambers both on dung and filter paper [(for both A40 and A41 (bat dung))]

Designation: A40

Collector: Cicely Fenton

Location and vegetation: Victoria, Australia. “Lanark” near Branxholme (S.W. of Hamilton)

Collection date: June 1997

Incubation date: 20 Sept. 01

Other fungi on the same pellets: – Chaetomium irregulare, Mortierella reticulata, Podospora decipiens, P. vesticola

Several glass slides and numerous projection photos were prepared: D. Mahoney – Nov., 2001