

Introductory comments (D. Mahoney): Ann's first observation was on 30 Oct. 01. Her measurements and observations of the ascospores were these: ascospore dark cell with blunt, rough warts, 18-21(-25) X 14-16(-17) μm (n=10), pedicel hyaline, smooth (7-)10 X (3-)5-6(-7) μm (n=7 – 3 of the pedicels were broken). She looked for caudae but none were seen, even in an India ink mount.

On 7 Nov. 01 I transferred several colonies from the PCA plate of 2 Nov. 01 on which I had attempted to germinate ascospores of Apiosordaria verruculosa var. maritima. This attempt involved a 20 minute 3% hydrogen peroxide treatment of several ripe perithecia (consisting also of a minimal amount of attached dung and filter paper). Five colonies were transferred to the single PCA plate (and incubated at 25 degrees C in continuous light) from what appeared to be the growth of perithecial fragments – no ascospores were observed to be germinating. Four of the five colonies turned out to be the Apiosordaria and the fifth Mortierella reticulata. Two of the Apiosordaria colonies were selected for axenic work and these were designated colonies 1 and 3, later strains 1 and 3. On Nov. 9, another colony from the original isolation plate of Nov. 2nd (one with forming ascomata) was also transferred to axenic culture. This was at first labelled I, but later strain 2. Strains 1, 2 & 3 have been followed in axenic culture on Difco CMA and scratch PCA since that time. All are essentially the same. Growth and sporulation (anamorph and teleomorph) are much reduced on CMA – PCA being the medium of choice. The following description is a general one, taken from axenic PCA and combining the results of strains 1-3.

Teleomorph description: (from water mounts unless specified otherwise)
Colonies on PCA (incubated at 25°C, continuous light – later 12 light: 12 dark) spreading rapidly from a center agar-block inoculum and covering the plate in 5 days; colonies low, translucent but soon becoming darker especially in areas of ascomata development where many of the hyphae become darker brown and more robust. **Perithecia** soon numerous and scattered throughout the colony, maturing in 2 weeks (first mature ascospores observed after 12 days but most ascospore discharges occurring in 14 days or later; perithecia superficial to submerged, pyriform and clothed with moderate numbers of smooth, septate, flexuous, brownish hairs, the outer peridium prosenchymatous and composed of a loose textura intricata unevenly pigmented in shades of brown, the inner peridial layers more difficult to discern but generally pseudoparenchymatous of a textura