

Analysis of Mould Spores

The following images of mould spores have been provided by our Mycologist, Mr. George White of RIFDS Inc. All images were taken with an Olympus BMax Compound Microscope with Differential Interference contrast.



Fig. 1

The image above (Fig. 1) is a microscopic image of *Stachybotrys atra* spores and mycelium. The *Stachybotrys* spores are approximately 10 microns long for size references.



Fig. 2

Figure 2 shows a cluster on an Air-O-Cell cassette of 29 *Cladosporium* spores (3 or 4 spores are out of focus in the background) showing how these fungi travel together in the air. If cultured they would only produce 1 colony if they landed on the agar as a group.

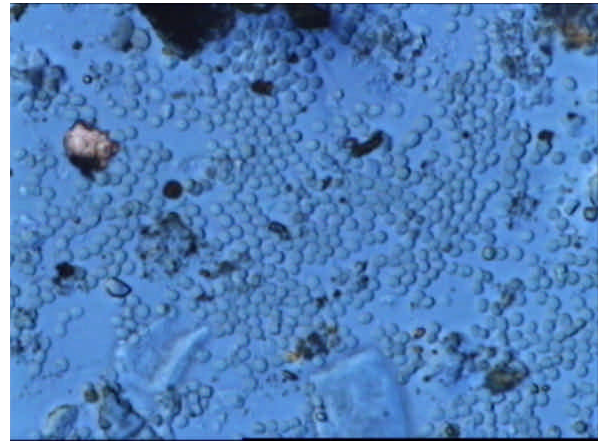


Fig. 3

There were 72000 of these spores on the AOC trace from which this picture was taken (Fig. 3). These are *Penicillium* (smaller) and *Aspergillus* (larger but fewer). This equated to 480,000 spores/cu. meter.

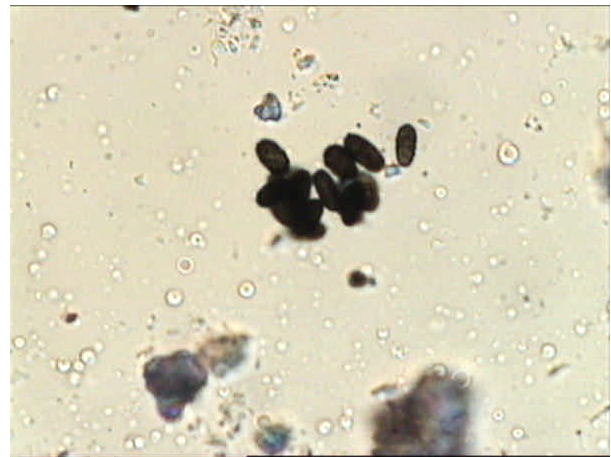


Fig. 4

This is a cluster of *Stachybotrys* spores on an Air-O-Cell cassette (Fig. 4). They travel in "spore balls" of up to about 30 spores. This cluster has about 13 spores in it.



Fig. 5

This is about a 45-spore cluster of *Penicillium/Aspergillus* (Fig. 5).

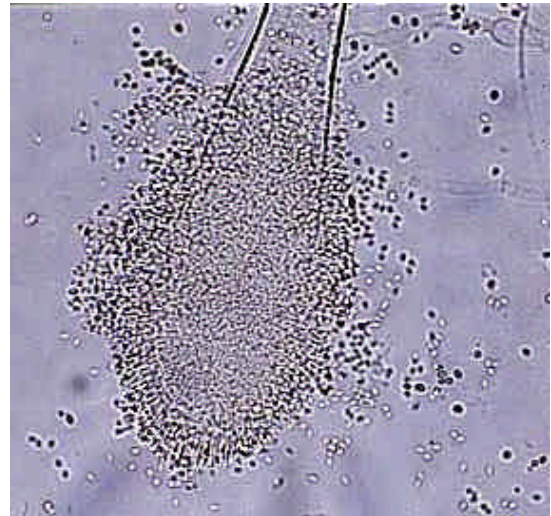


Fig. 7

Aspergillus clavatus spores (Fig. 7)



Fig. 6

Shown above is a picture of the *Penicillium* (Fig. 6) It is the light green mingled "strands" near the middle of the image. Each stand is less than 1 mm long and contains a few thousand spores.

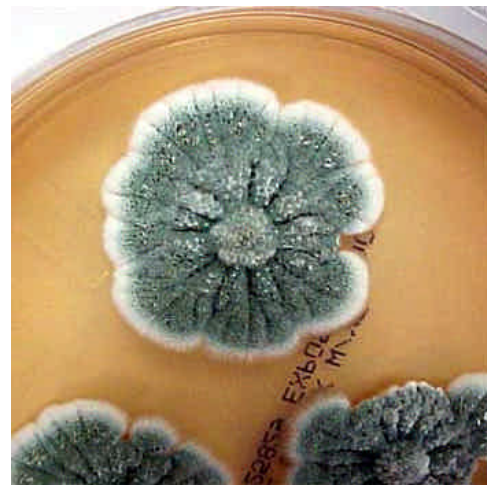


Fig. 8

Penicillium cultured in an agar solution (Fig. 8).