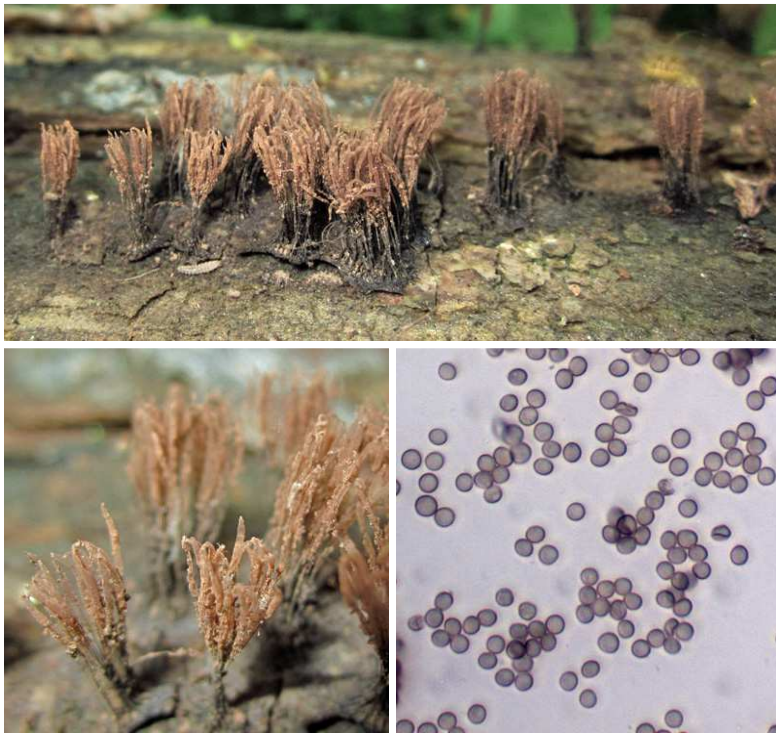


Chocolate Tube Slime Mold

Stemonitis axifera
(Bulliard) T. McBride



OVERALL: Schooley Mill Park, 5/29/2018, J. Solem.

CLOSEUP: Schooley Mill Park, 5/29/2018, J. Solem.

SPORES (5.3-6.1 [round] μ m): Schooley Mill Park, 5/29/2018, R. Solem

Chocolate Tube Slime Mold

Stemonitis axifera
Stemonitidaceae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
		-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-

ID: Tufts of bright reddish-brown “chocolate tubes” on black stalks.

Habitat: Dense clusters. On decaying wood

Fruiting Body: Tufts 0.3 – 0.6” tall [7 – 15 mm]

“The erect, stalked cylindrical sporangia are arranged into bundles or clusters that are 7–15 mm (0.3–0.6 in) tall. Each sporangia are [sic] supported by a thin, shining, black stalk that is 3–7 mm (0.1–0.3 in) long. The bright rusty brown color of mature sporangia lightens to a pale brown after the spores have been dispersed. Spores measure 5 by 7 μ m and have a smooth to minutely punctate surface texture.”

Stalk: 0.1-0.3” long [3 – 7 mm]
Shining black.

Spores: *Brown*. Round, nearly smooth, light tan.

Frequency: Uncommon.

Locations: RKBRN, SLMLP.

Notes: Mycobank 119956. Schooley Mill Park specimen identified by examination of spores by R. Solem as consistent with *S. axifera* (*vide* Stevenson [Myx 152]). The fruiting bodies in the photos have already dropped many of their spores.

References: E&S 382fn. Lin 854fn. Myx 152. W&L 616fn.

* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stemonitis_axifera