


# European key to the genus *Scutellinia*

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**Abstract:** This key to the genus *Scutellinia* (Cooke) Lambotte is a working key. There are still many avenues to explore and it remains upgradable. It is the result of a deep study of numerous collections, exclusively made for 5 years, representing more than 1500 personal collections, 2500 collections from herbaria all over the world, 80% of known type collections, 80 collections studied under MEB, participation of two phylogenetic studies (integrating personal collections)... Unfinished studies and my personal history explain why some species are marked with a “?” sign and some provisional unpublished names are given. I decided to provide this key to serve as a framework for a future study.

**Keywords:** Ascomycota, Pezizales, Pyronemataceae.

**Résumé :** cette clé des espèces du genre *Scutellinia* (Cooke) Lambotte est une clé de travail. Il reste de nombreuses pistes à étudier et elle reste évolutive. Elle résulte de l'étude approfondie de nombreuses collections : 5 ans d'étude exclusive de ce genre, plus de 1500 récoltes personnelles, plus de 2500 collections d'herbiers du monde entier, 80 % des types existants, 80 collections étudiées au MEB, participation à deux études phylogéniques intégrant des récoltes personnelles... Des études diverses inachevées ainsi que mon histoire personnelle expliquent pourquoi certaines espèces sont suivies d'un « ? » et des noms provisoires (non publiés) sont donnés dans certains cas. J'ai décidé de la mettre à disposition pour qu'elle puisse servir de base à un travail ultérieur.

**Mots-clés :** Ascomycota, Pezizales, Pyronemataceae.

Oroimenean – A la mémoire de – In memory of  
**Amaia Jeannerot †**



Eskerrik asko – Remerciements – Thanks

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## Abbreviations and annotations:

SWV: spore wall view, means “side-view”.

TV: top view, means “face-view”.

Q: ratio length/width of spores.

X: mean value.

Complex: means a name which applies perhaps to several species (studies on course).

?: means a species or variety which is uncertain (studies on course).

CB: Cotton Blue.

Q = 1 to 1.2 ..... **Key A**  
Q > 1.2 ..... **Key B**

## Key A: Species with globose to subglobose spores (Q 1 to 1.2)

- 1a. Spores with connected ridges (*fig. 1*) ..... ***S. rotundisperma***
- 1b. Spores with warts as shark fins or spines (*fig. 2*) ..... ***S. legaliae***
- 1c. Spores with hemispherical or low truncate warts ..... **2**
- 1d. Spores with high truncate warts ..... **5**
  
- 2a. High warts, average > 2 µm high ..... **3**
- 2b. Warts in general < 2.5 µm high ..... **4**
  
- 3a. Spores > 23 µm on average, warts rounded up to 3 µm high (*fig. 3*) ..... ***S. citrina***
- 3b. Spores 15–19 µm diam., warts up to 4.5 µm high (*fig. 4*) ..... ***S. sinensis***
- 3c. Spores 21–24 µm diam., same as *fig. 4* ..... ***S. sinensis* var. *megaspora* nom. prov.**
- 4a. Very heterogeneous warts, hairs exceeding 700 µm (*fig. 5*) ..... ***S. heterosphaera* nom. prov.**
- 4b. Homogeneous warts rather truncate and low, short hairs < 400 µm, with simple or bifurcate base (*fig. 6*) ..... ***S. barlae***
- 4c. Homogeneous little warts, very low in SWV max. 1 µm high (*fig. 7*) ..... ***S. hyperborea***
- 4d. Heterogeneous higher warts, subglobose spores × 15–21 µm (*fig. 8*) ..... ***S. minor***
- 4e. Rounded low warts, very unevenly dispersed on the spores, see key B (*fig. 29*) ..... ***S. patagonica***

- 5a. Many truncate warts in SWV, angular in TV (fig. 9) ..... *S. trechispora*  
 5b. Truncate warts in SWV, lower and rounded in TV (fig. 10) ..... *S. rotadentata* nom. prov.

**Key B: Species with ellipsoid to fusiform spores (Q > 1.2)**

- 1a. Spores with loosening perispore in heated CB ..... 2  
 1b. Spores ornamentation as a complete or almost complete reticulum ..... 4  
 1c. Not these characters ..... 5
- 2a. Spores narrow ellipsoid to fusoid, 23.5–28 × 11.5–15 µm, straight and inflated hairs (fig. 11) ..... *S. mirabilis*  
 2b. Spores ellipsoid < 25 µm ..... 3
- 3a. Reticulum with large crests, short hairs (fig. 15) ..... *S. pseudotrechispora*  
 3b. Spores ellipsoid to ovoid, 19–24 × 11–15 µm, hairs < 400 µm, curved in the upper third part, heterogeneous rounded to angular large warts (fig. 12) ..... *S. superba*  
 3c. Spores 12.8–16.2 × 6.8–9.2 µm, short hairs < 150 µm, rather yellow, some with rounded apex (fig. 13) ..... *S. minutella*  
 3d. Spores 15.6–19.2 × 7.8–11.5 µm, hairs to 400 µm, rather brown (fig. 14) ..... *S. torrentis*
- 4a. Reticulum with large crests, short hairs (fig. 15) ..... *S. pseudotrechispora*  
 4b. Spores subglobose, 13.5–17 µm wide, warts looking like round-headed nails, often on acid and peaty soil (fig. 16) ..... *S. decipiens*  
 4c. Spores ellipsoid, 16.5–23 × 11–13.5 µm (X = 18.5 × 12 µm), with an irregular reticulum, warts ± truncate, often on wood (fig. 17) ..... *S. pennsylvanica*
- 5a. Spores smooth, little and yellow apothecia, on decorticated wood (fig. 18) ..... *S. setosa*  
 5b. Spores with large warts (TV diam. > 2 µm) disseminated between smaller ones ..... 6  
 5c. Not these characters and spores mainly with isolated warts ..... 7  
 5d. Not these characters and spores mainly with crests even short ..... 14
- 6a. Q > 1.5, large and very small warts mixed, slightly marginal hairs, > 500 µm, inflated, with a simple or bifurcate large base (fig. 19) ..... *S. heterosculpturata*  
 6b. Q < 1.4, large and small warts mixed, hairs < 250 µm, spores more widely ellipsoid (fig. 20) ..... *S. variornata* nom. prov.?
- 7a. Spores > 24 µm in length, narrowly ellipsoid (Q > 2), 24.1–25 × 10.9–11.3 µm, with homogeneous warts (fig. 21) ..... *S. hirta* s. Kullman?  
 7b. Spores oblong-ellipsoid and occasionally inequilateral, heterogeneous warts. Hairs 20–50 µm wide, with a rooting base, 2–5 roots (fig. 22) ..... *S. cejpji* (= *S. hirta* s. Le Gal)  
 7c. Spores fusoid, ornamentation with densely fine punctuations (fig. 23) ..... *S. macrospora*  
 7d. Not these characters and Q < 1.8 ..... 8
- 8a. Spores ornamented with warts up to 2.5 µm wide and 1–2 µm high ..... 9  
 8b. Spores ornamented with smaller tubercles and warts, all hairs < 1200 µm ..... 12  
 8c. Spores ornamented with smaller tubercles and warts, some hairs > 1200 µm ..... 18
- 9a. Spores broadly ellipsoid (Q < 1.4), between 16–25 × 11–23 µm ..... 10  
 9b. Spores more ellipsoid (Q > 1.4) ..... 11
- 10a. Marginal hairs, 150 µm max. in length, with a simple base. Spores 17–22 × 12–15.5 µm, ornamentation fairly homogeneous in size (fig. 24) ..... *S. ahmadii*  
 10b. Marginal hairs 100–450 × 13–27 µm, with a bifurcate base, numerous on margin. Spores 19–24 × 12–16 µm (fig. 25) ..... *S. pseudoumbrarum*?  
 10c. Marginal hairs with a wide and multifurcate base, 200–700 (–900) × 24–50 µm. Spores broadly ellipsoid 17–25 × 12–17 µm (fig. 26) ..... *S. umbrarum* complex
- 11a. Spores ellipsoid, 18–22 × 11–14 µm, ornamented with large tubercles and some more little warts. Marginal hairs slender, inflated, with a wide bifurcate base (fig. 20) ..... *S. heterosculpturata*?  
 11b. Spores (16.3–) 17.7–19 (–19.6) × (11–) 12.2–13.6 (–14.1) µm. Marginal hairs up to 100–330 (–400) µm in length, with a simple or bifurcate base ..... *S. parvispora*?
- 12a. Marginal hairs dense, up to 400 µm, of homogeneous size and shape, spores 19.4–26.5 × 13.8–16.6 µm (fig. 27) ..... *S. nigrohirtula* complex  
 12b. Marginal hairs 130–480 × 18–38 µm. Spores broadly ellipsoid, dotted by micro-crests and micro-warts, 22–28 × 15–22 µm (fig. 28) ..... *S. kerguelensis* complex  
 12c. Hairs > 500 µm ..... 13
- 13a. Spores broadly ellipsoid (Q = 1.2–1.4), 18–23 × 13–19 µm, tubercles and warts heterogeneous and unevenly distributed. Marginal hairs with a wide and multifurcate base, margin with obtuse hairs interspersed (fig. 29) ..... *S. patagonica*  
 13b. Spores ellipsoid, 17–24 × 12–15 µm, warts evenly distributed on spore wall. Marginal hairs with a bi- or trifurcate base (fig. 30) ..... *S. subhirtella*  
 13c. Spores 15–20 × 9–12 µm, angular warts well visible at the poles, up to 1.5 µm wide and 1.2 µm high (fig. 31) ..... *S. vitreola*  
 13d. Spores 19–21 × 12–13 µm, hairs 800–1100 µm, thin base, ornamentation always with angular warts and coalescent crests (fig. 32) ..... *S. pulchroornata* nom. prov.
- 14a. Hairs < 1000 µm ..... 15  
 14b. Hairs > 1000 µm ..... 18
- 15a. Spores inequilateral and/or Q > 1.8 ..... 7  
 15b. Some hairs > 500 µm ..... 16

- 15c. All hairs < 500 µm ..... 17
- 16a. Spores 15–20 × 9–12 µm, angular warts well visible at the poles, up to 1.5 µm wide and 1.2 high (fig. 31) ..... *S. vitreola*
- 16b. Marginal hairs with multifurcate base, flexuous, up to 600–800 µm. Spores ornamented with warts well visible, with coarse crests, de 20–27 × 12–18 µm (fig. 33) ..... *S. olivascens*
- 16c. Same but spores 18.8–21.8 × 12.0–13.7 µm ..... *S. olivascens* var. *minutospora*?
- 17a. Marginal hairs dense, up to 400 µm, of homogeneous size and shape, spores 19.4–26.5 × 13.8–16.6 µm (fig. 27) ..... *S. nigrohirtula* complex
- 17b. Spores fusoid 25.1–31.4 × 11.8–13.8 µm (fig. 23) ..... *S. macrospora*
- 17c. Marginal hairs 130–480 × 18–38 µm, base bifurcate. Spores broadly ellipsoid, dotted by micro-crests and micro-warts, 22–28 × 15–22 µm (fig. 28) ..... *S. kerguelensis* complex
- 17d. Hairs 180–330 × 13–30 µm, with a simple or bifurcate base, spores 18–24 × 12–16 µm ..... *S. kerguelensis* var. *microspora*?
- 18a. Small ellipsoid spores, 17–19.5 × 9.5–11.5 µm, Q = 1.6–1.7, warts and short anastomosed crests (fig. 34) ..... *S. colensoi*?
- 18b. Spores 21.5–27 × 14–17 µm, ornamentation with dense micro-crests (fig. 35) ..... *S. pilatii*
- 18c. Spores 17–19.5 × 9–12 µm, with rounded ends, punctuated by micro-warts or micro-crests, long and medium hairs alternated, wide multifurcate base; all substrates (fig. 36) ..... *S. crinita*
- 18d. Spores with obtuse ends, ornamentation with well-marked crests, Q > 1.6 (fig. 37) ..... *S. scutellata* complex

**Excluded species:**

*Scutellinia crucipila* = *Cheilymenia crucipila*

*Scutellinia tuberculata* = *Scutellinia sinensis*

*Scutellinia verrucipolaris* = *Scutellinia cejpui*

*Scutellinia claviseta* = *Scutellinia minutella*

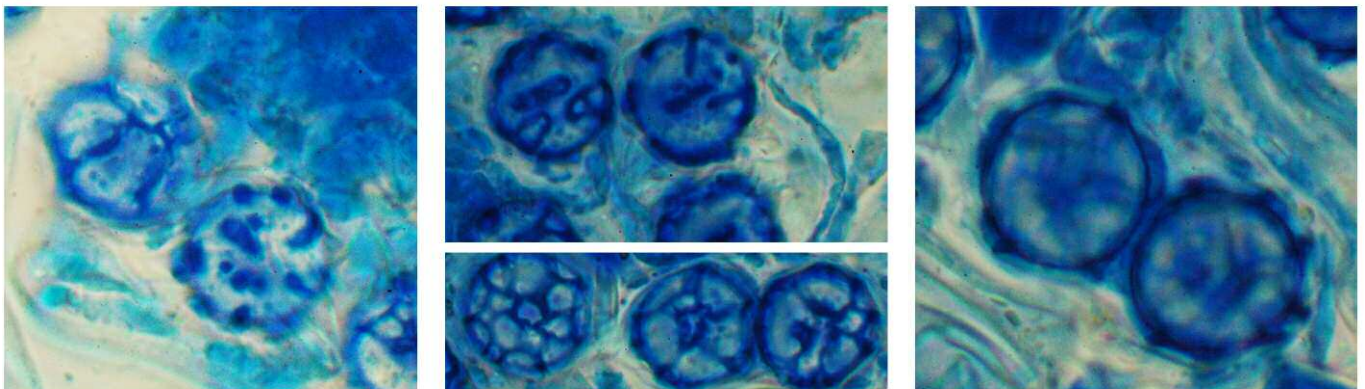
*Scutellinia scutellata* var. *leucothecia* = *Scutellinia crinita* with white hymenium due to absence of pigments.

*Scutellinia nivea* = not a *Scutellinia*, probably a species of genus *Paratrichophaea*.

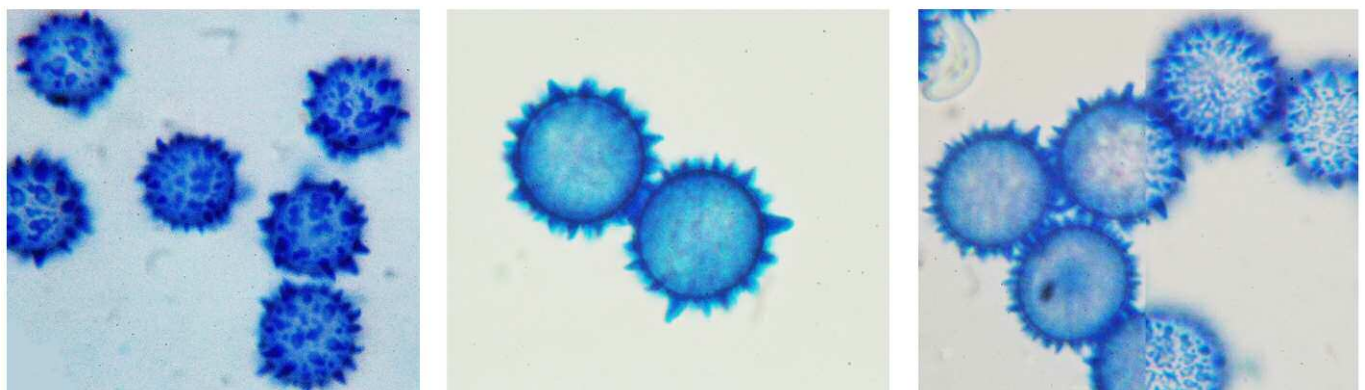
Translated versions — French, German, Italian, Spanish and Russian — of this key are available on Ascomycete.org website  
<https://doi.org/10.25664/KEY-0008>

**Figures**

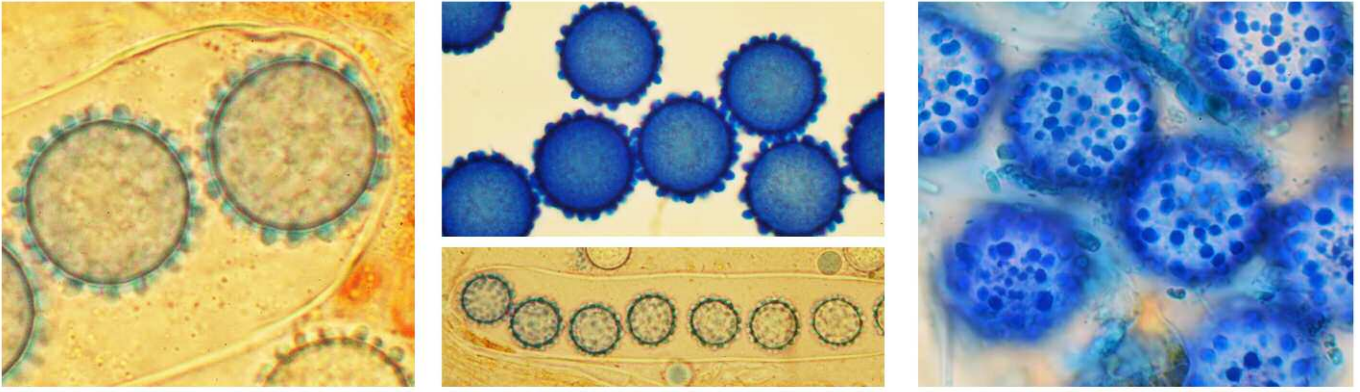
All pictures made by Beñat Jeannerot



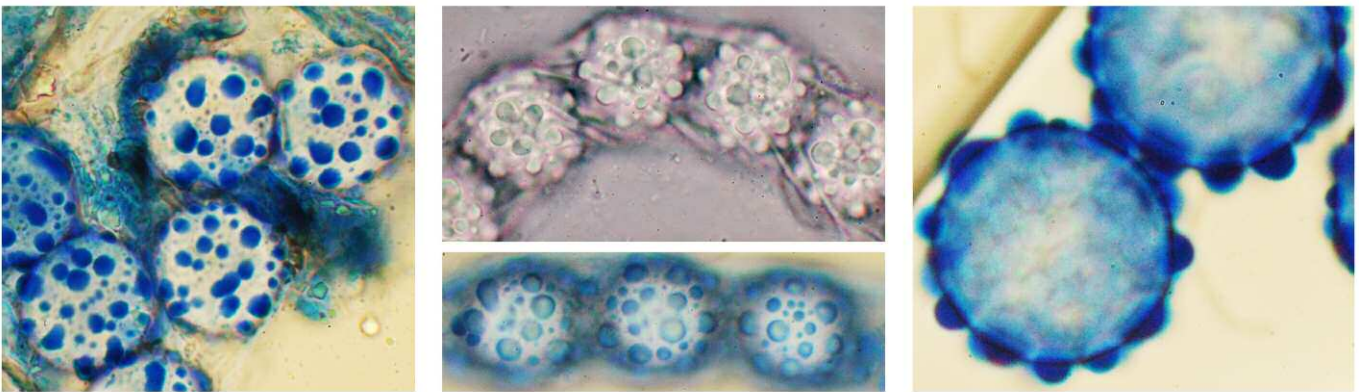
**Fig. 1** – *Scutellinia rotundisperma* (holotype, JCD 134-81)



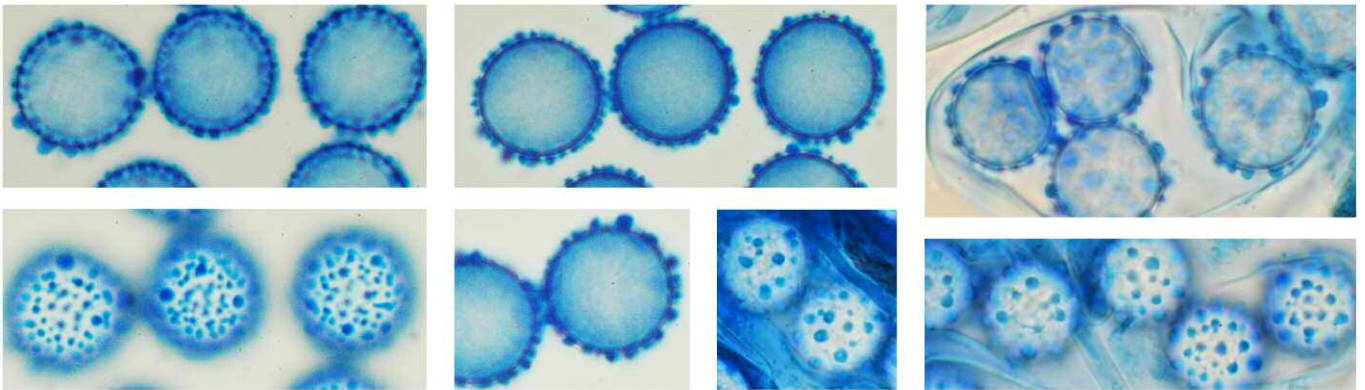
**Fig. 2** – *Scutellinia legaliae* (various collections BJ)



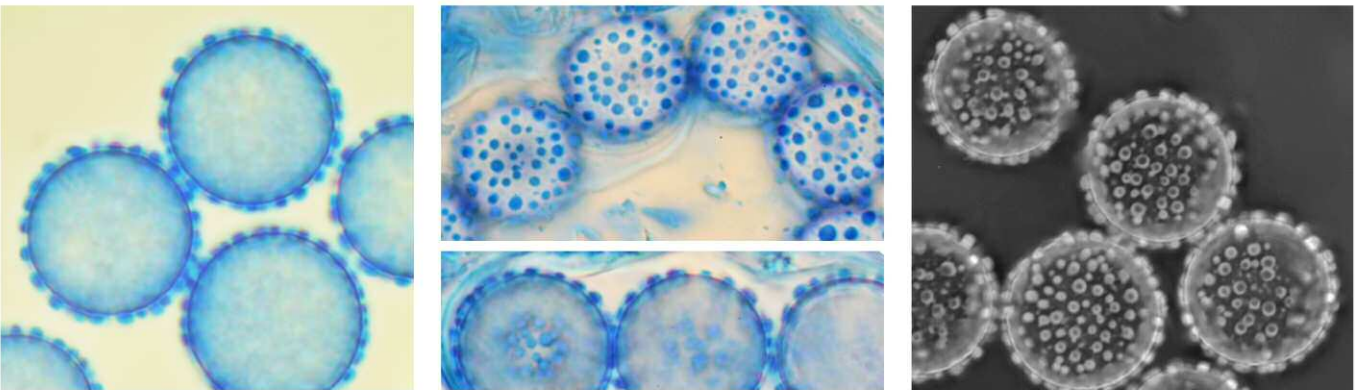
**Fig. 3** – *Scutellinia citrina* (various collections BJ)



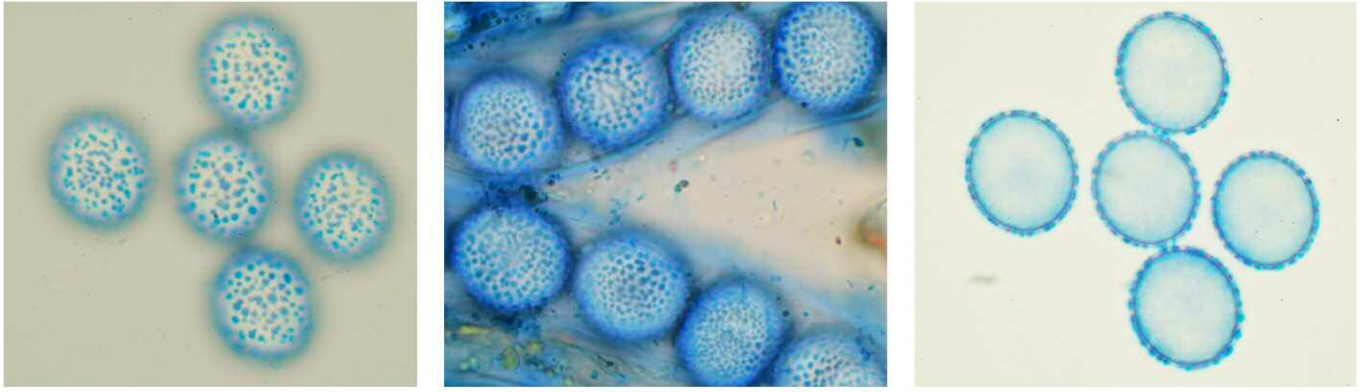
**Fig. 4** – *Scutellinia sinensis* (BJ-2013-031)



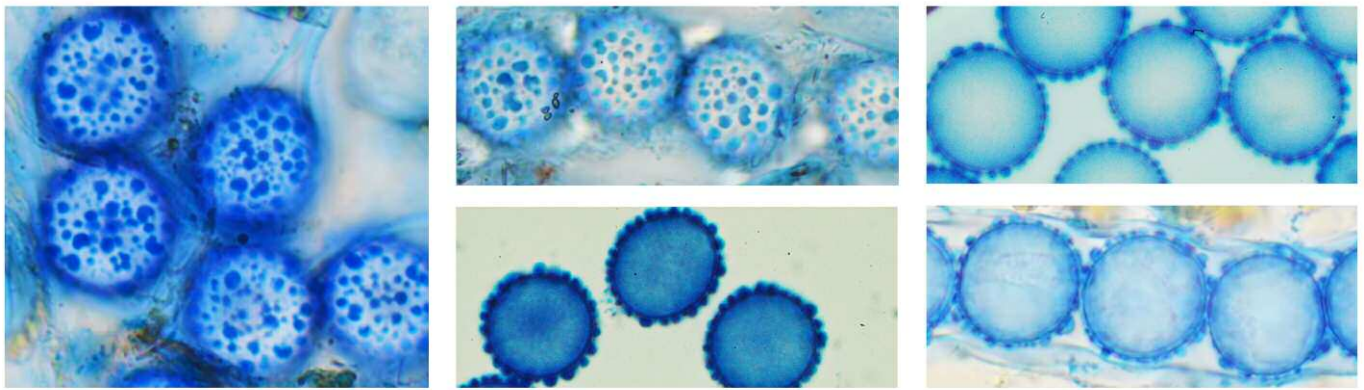
**Fig. 5** – *Scutellinia heterosphaera* nom. prov. (BJ-2013-277)



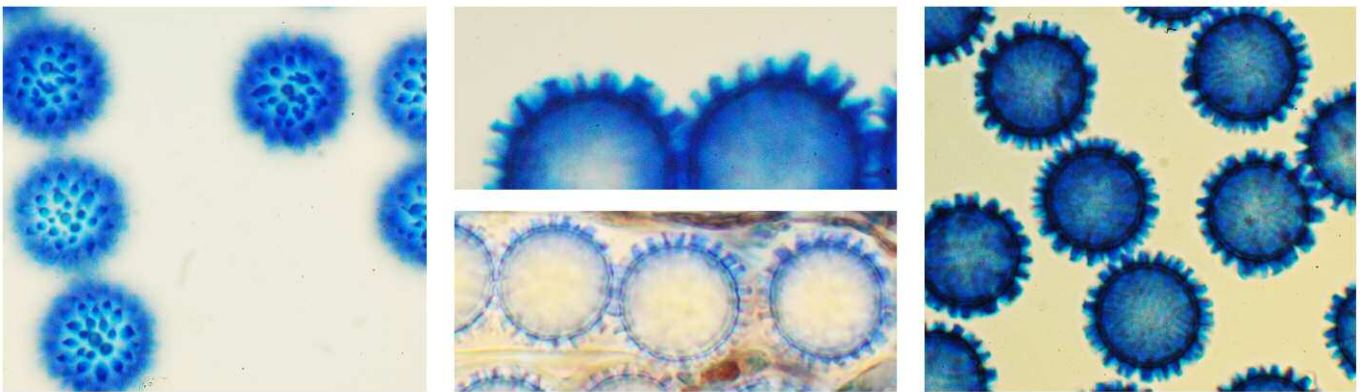
**Fig. 6** – *Scutellinia barlae* (various collections BJ)



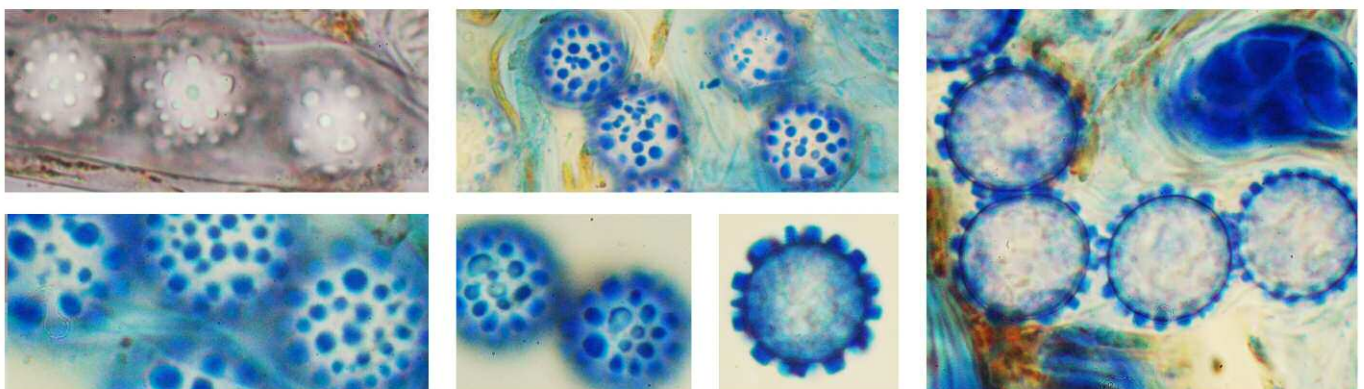
**Fig. 7** – *Scutellinia hyperborea* (various collections BJ)



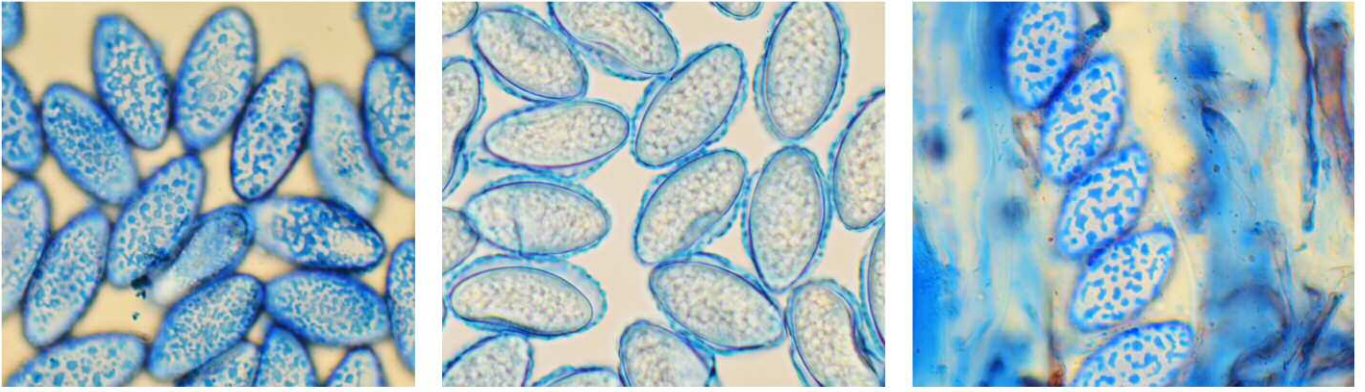
**Fig. 8** – *Scutellinia minor* (various collections BJ)



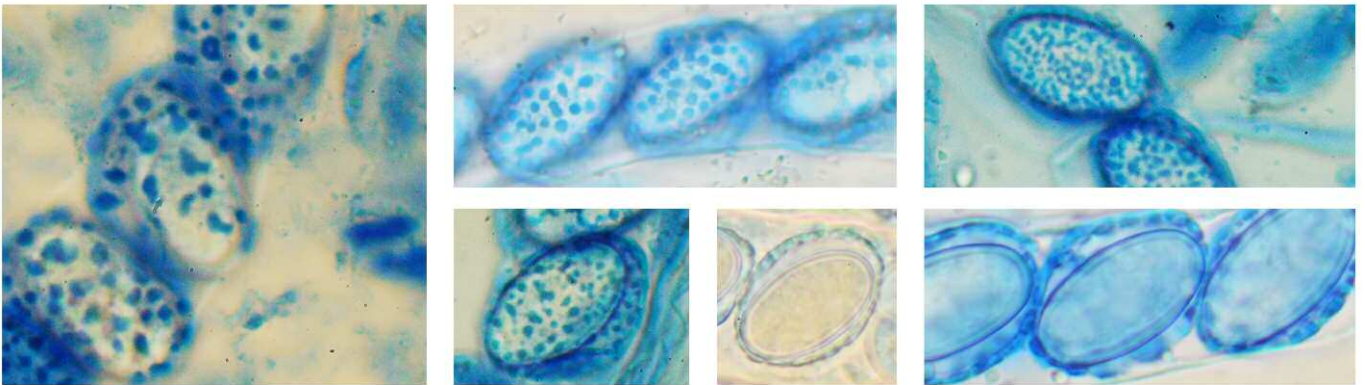
**Fig. 9** – *Scutellinia trechispora* (various collections BJ)



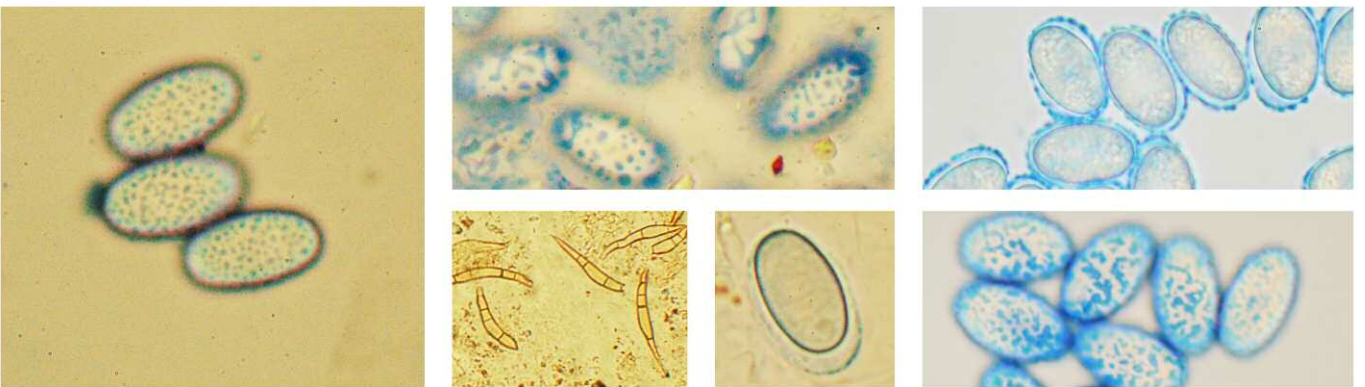
**Fig. 10** – *Scutellinia rotadentata* nom. prov. (BJ-2013-034)



**Fig. 11** – *Scutellinia mirabilis* (various collections BJ)



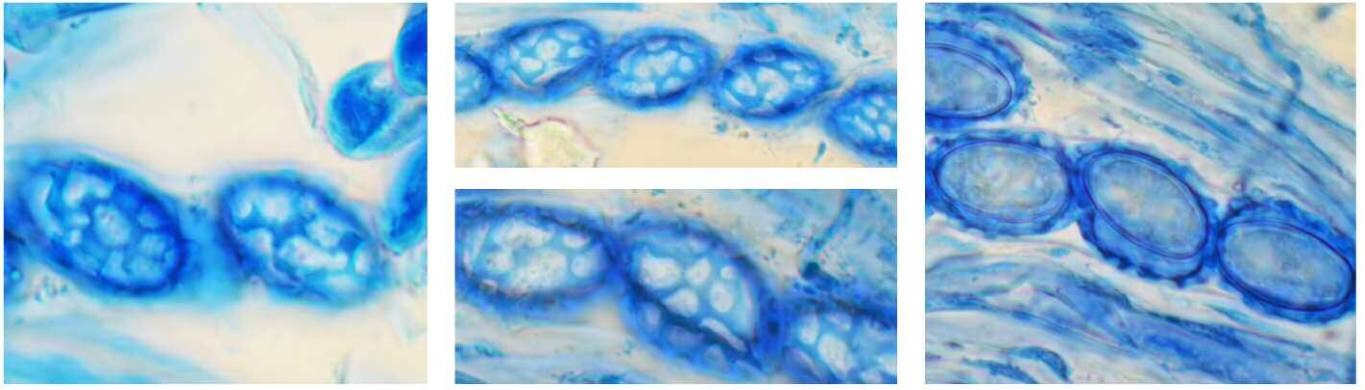
**Fig. 12** – *Scutellinia superba* (lectotype PRM 150964 and isotype CUP 63169)



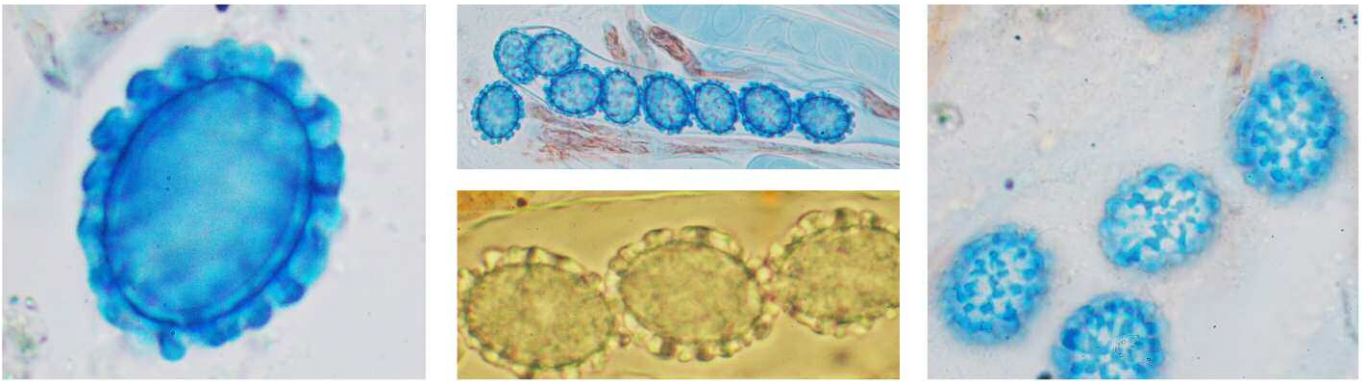
**Fig. 13** – *Scutellinia minutella* (various collections BJ)



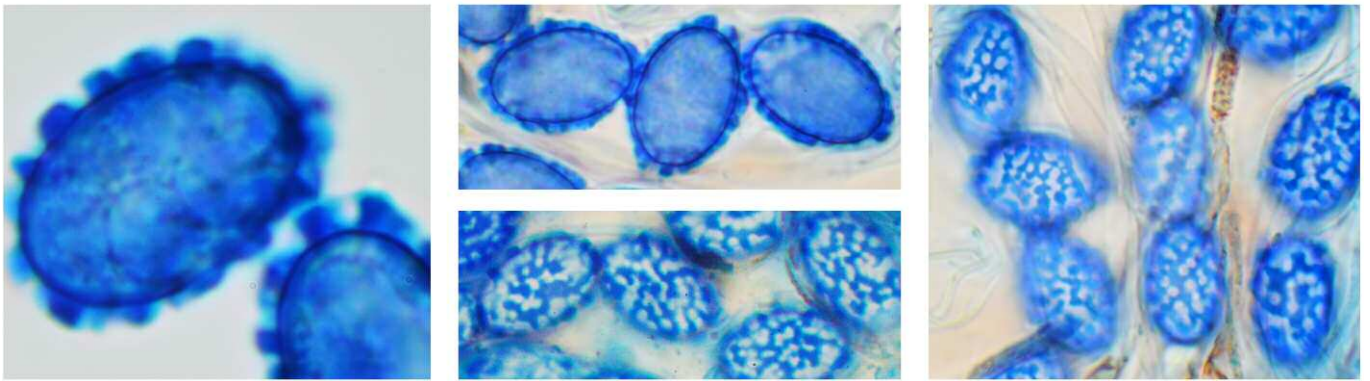
**Fig. 14** – *Scutellinia torrentis* (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 15** – *Scutellinia pseudotrechispora* (various collections BJ)



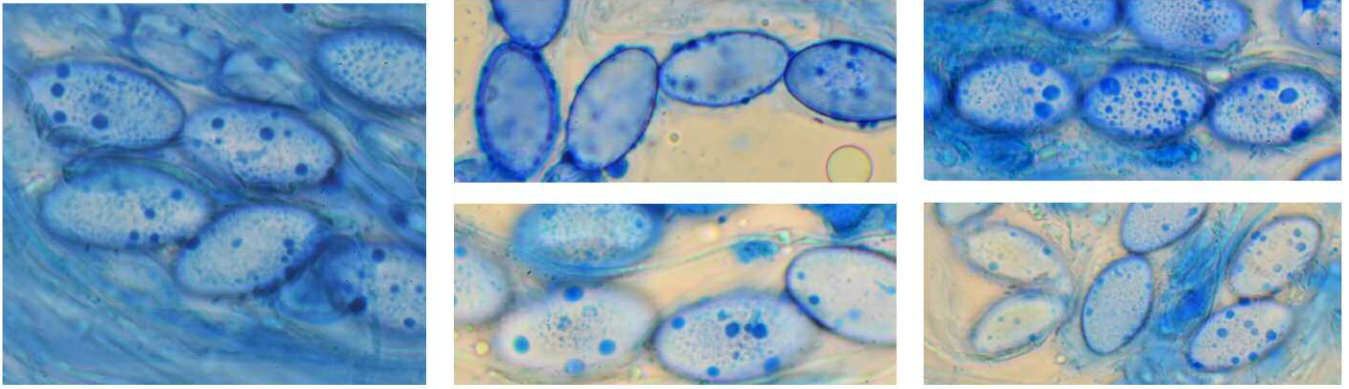
**Fig. 16** – *Scutellinia decipiens* (various collections BJ)



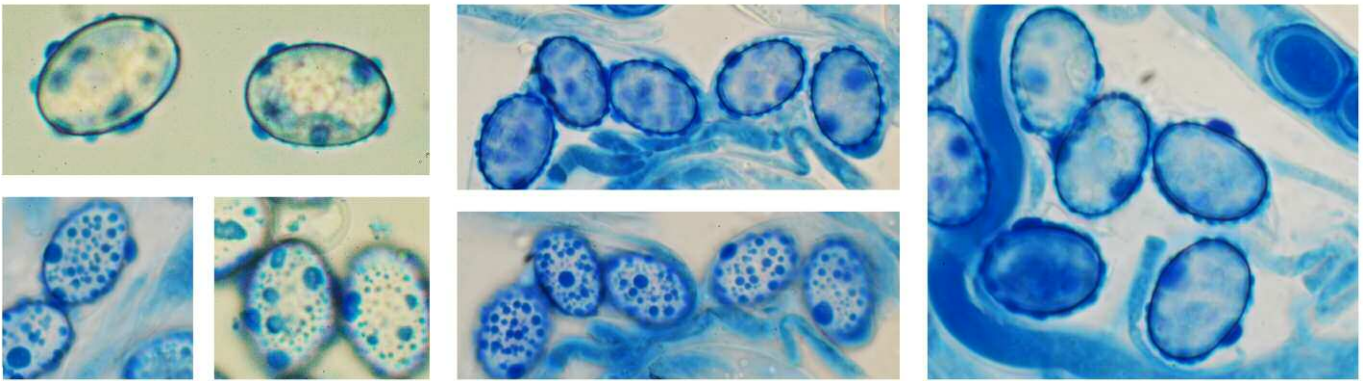
**Fig. 17** – *Scutellinia pennsylvanica* (various collections BJ)



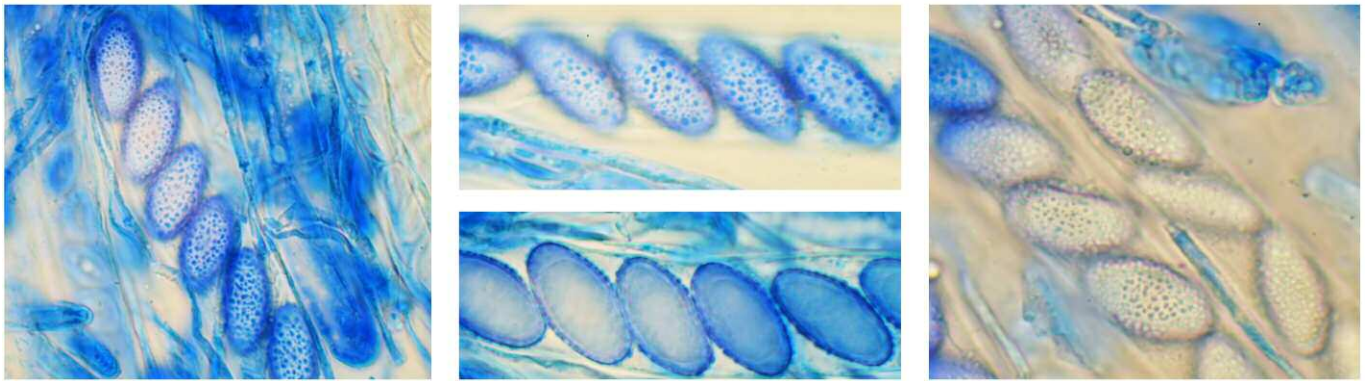
**Fig. 18** – *Scutellinia setosa* (various collections BJ)



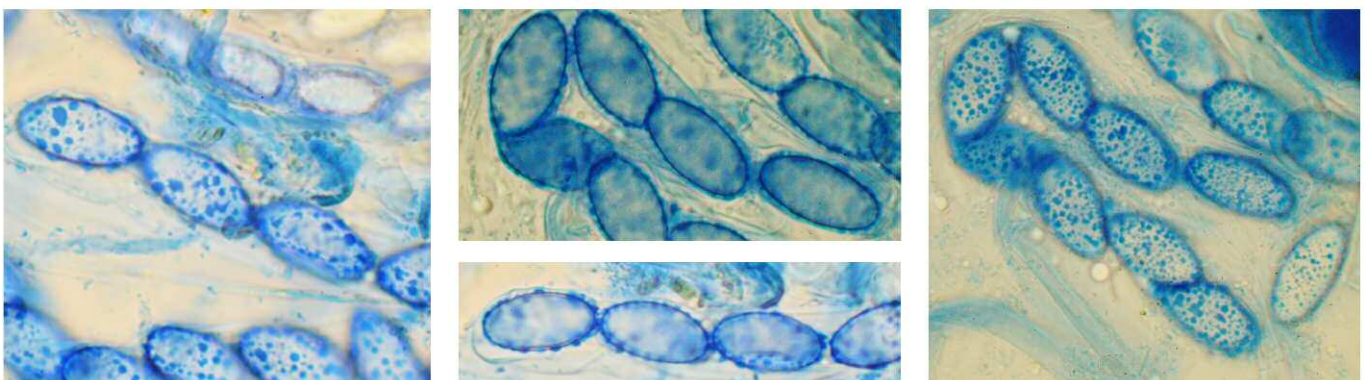
**Fig. 19** – *Scutellinia heterosculpturata* (typus and various collections BJ)



**Fig. 20** – *Scutellinia variornata* nom. prov. (various collections BJ)

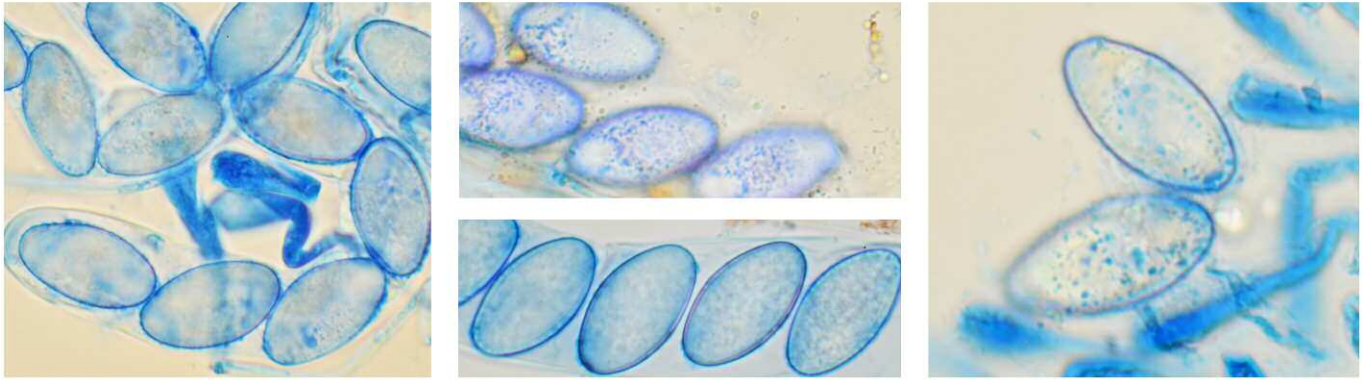


**Fig. 21** – *Scutellinia hirta* s. Kullman? (various collections BJ)

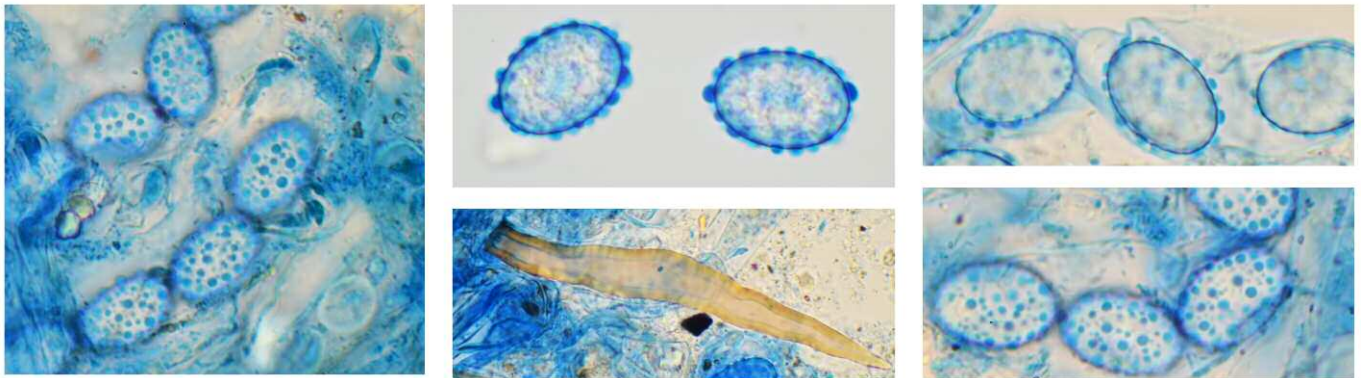


**Fig. 22** – *Scutellinia cejpai* (various collections BJ)

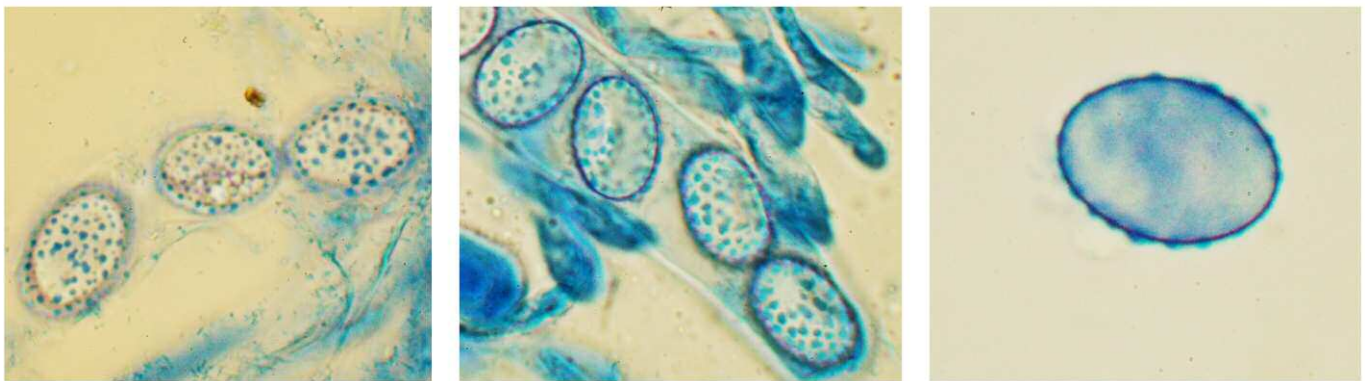




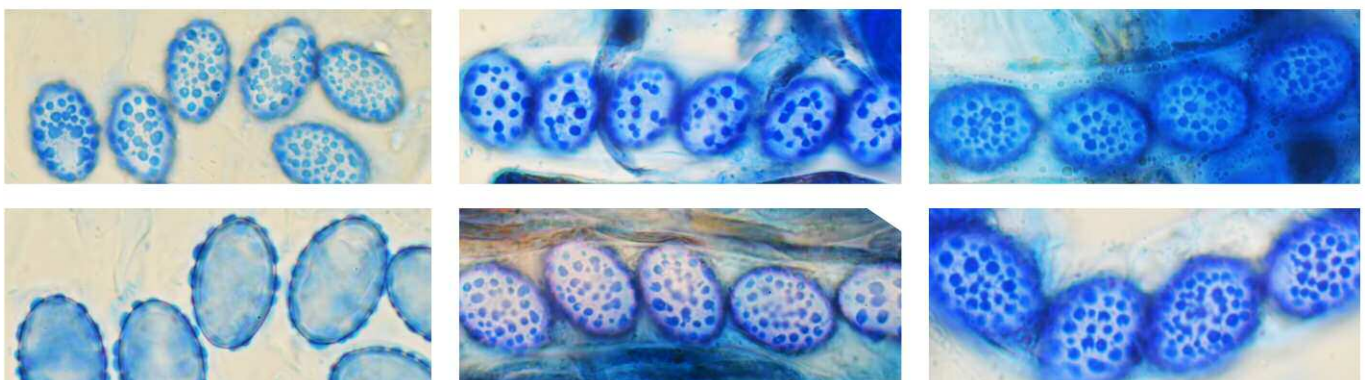
**Fig. 23** – *Scutellinia macrospora* (various collections BJ)



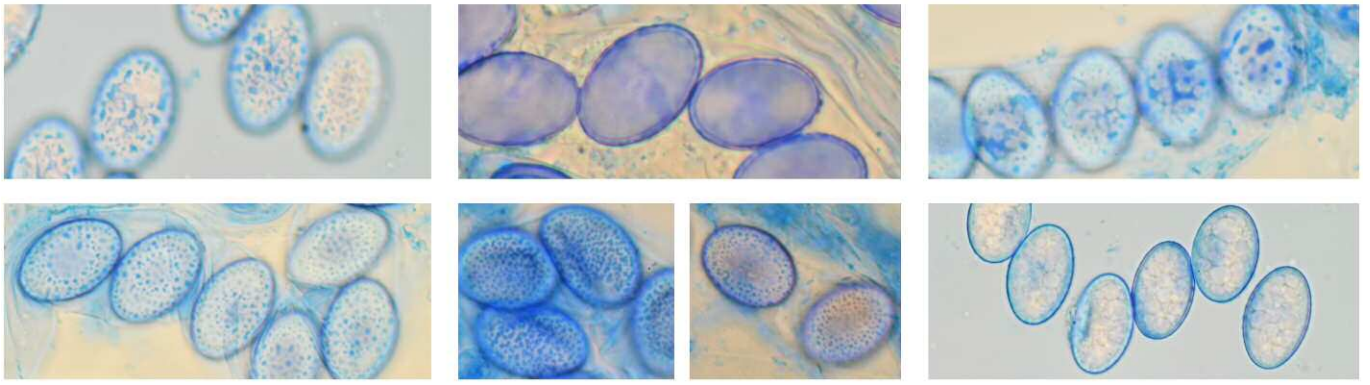
**Fig. 24** – *Scutellinia ahmadii* (various collections BJ)



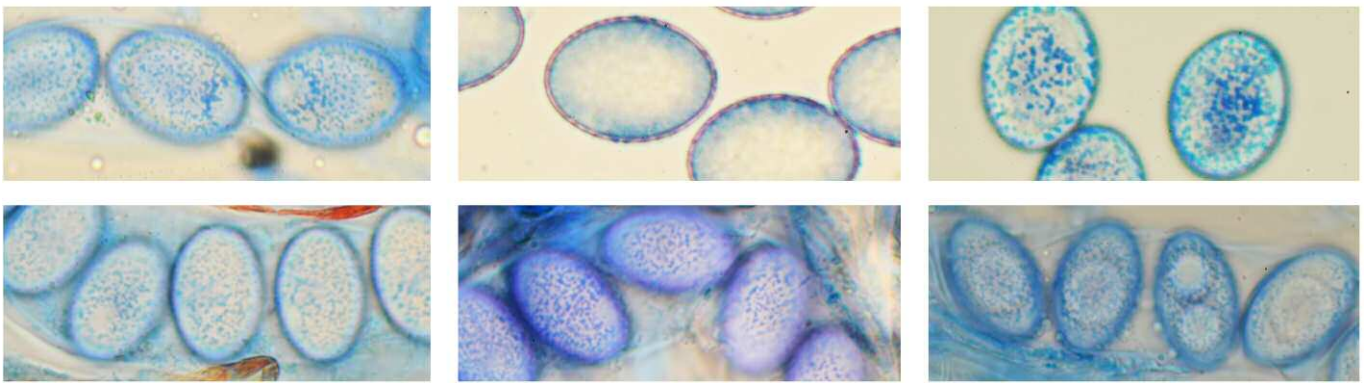
**Fig. 25** – *Scutellinia pseudoumbrarum?* (isotype CUP-63167)



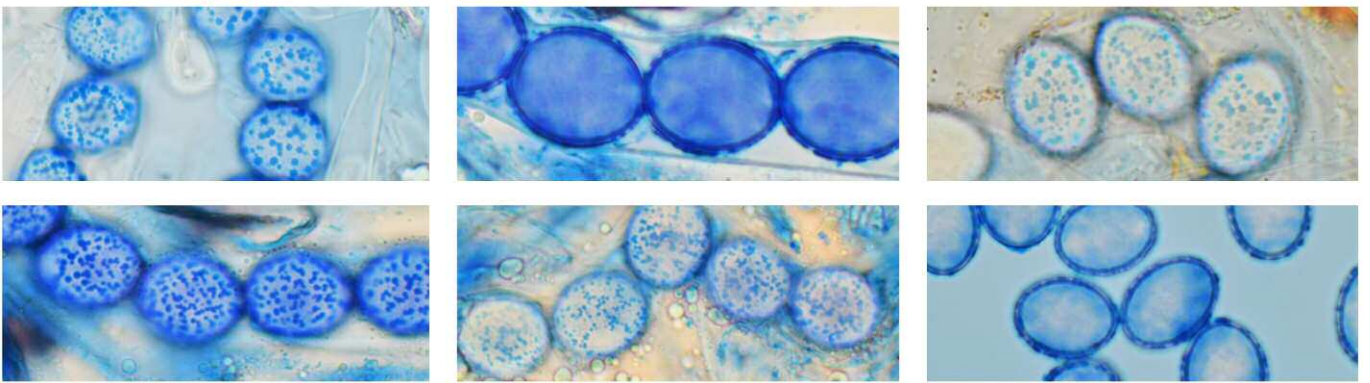
**Fig. 26** – *Scutellinia umbrarum* complex (various collections BJ)



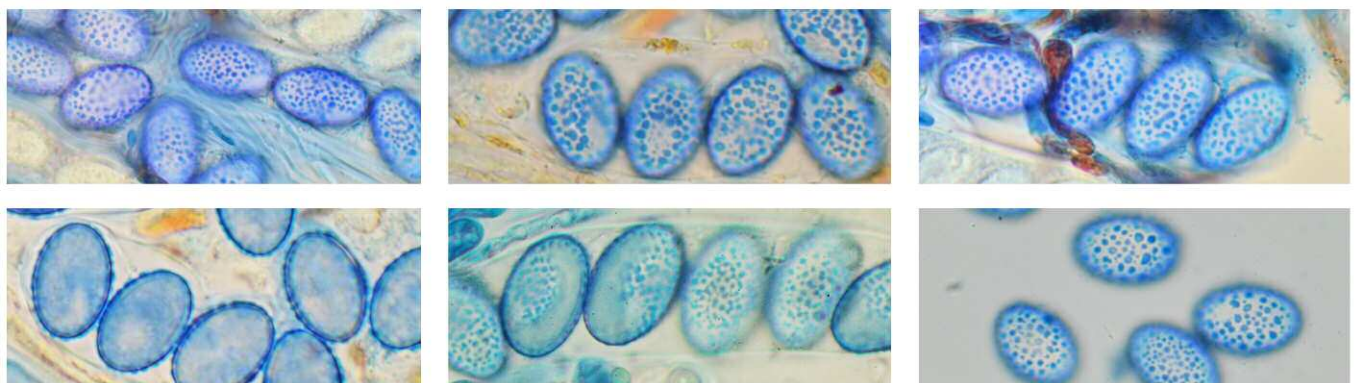
**Fig. 27** – *Scutellinia nigrohirtula* complex (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 28** – *Scutellinia kerguelensis* complex (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 29** – *Scutellinia patagonica* (holotype K(M)32153 and various collections BJ)



**Fig. 30** – *Scutellinia subhirtella* (holotype PRM 616842 and various collections BJ)

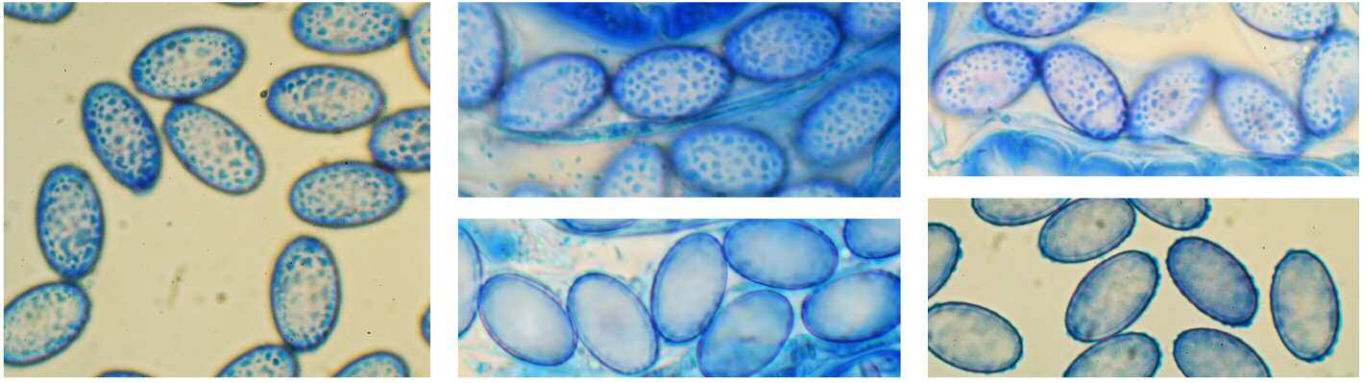


Fig. 31 – *Scutellinia vitreola* (various collections BJ)

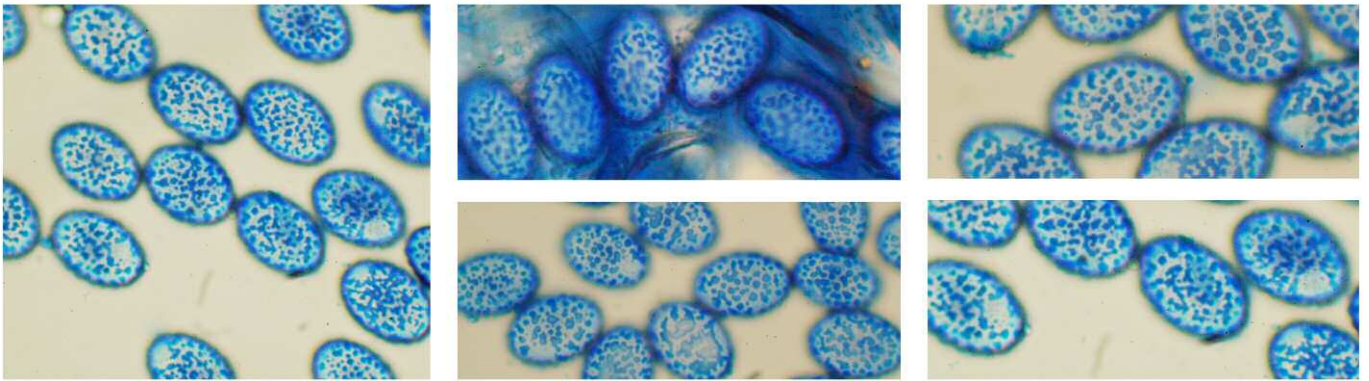


Fig. 32 – *Scutellinia pulchrostrata* nom. prov. (various collections BJ)

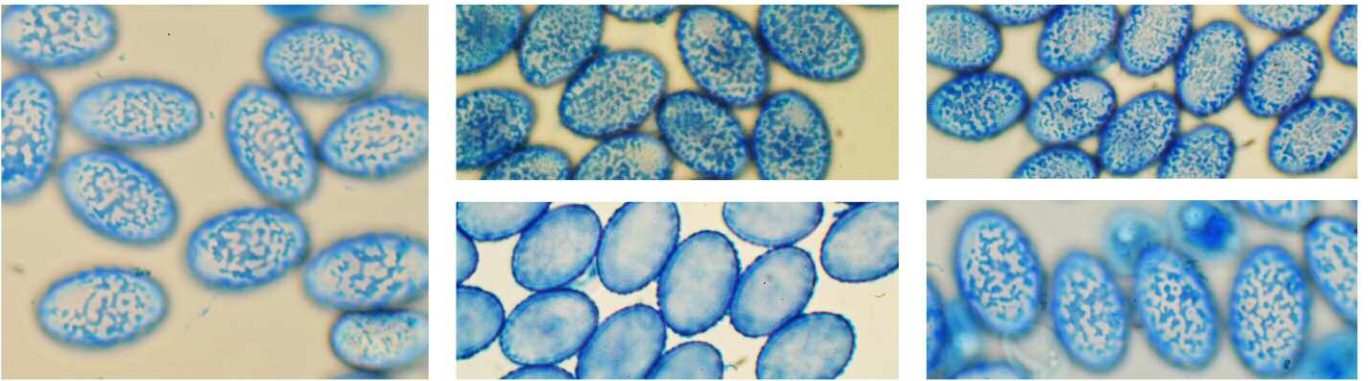


Fig. 33 – *Scutellinia olivascens* (various collections BJ)

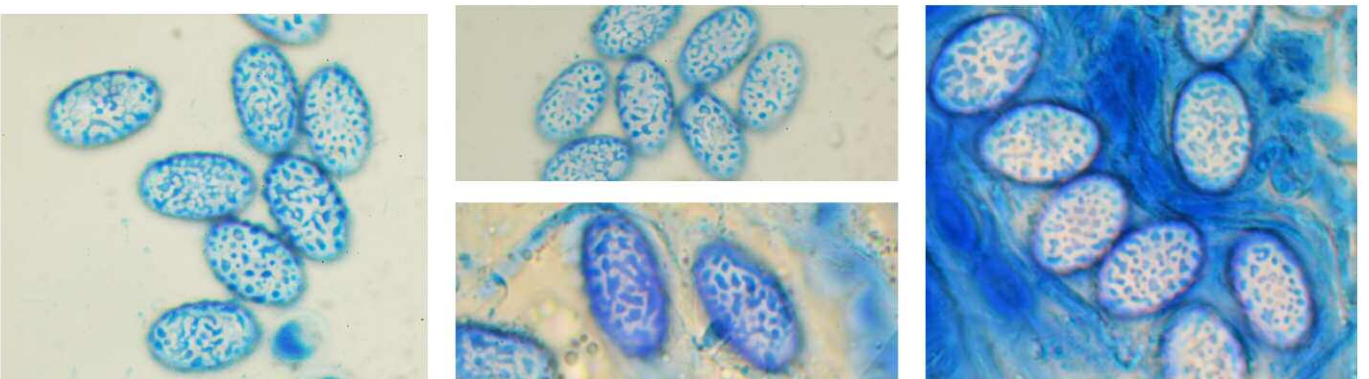
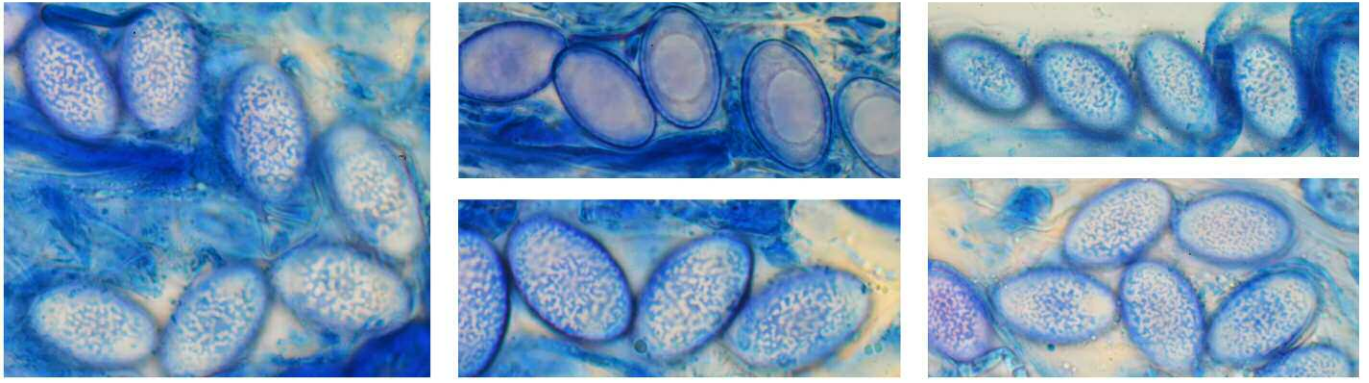
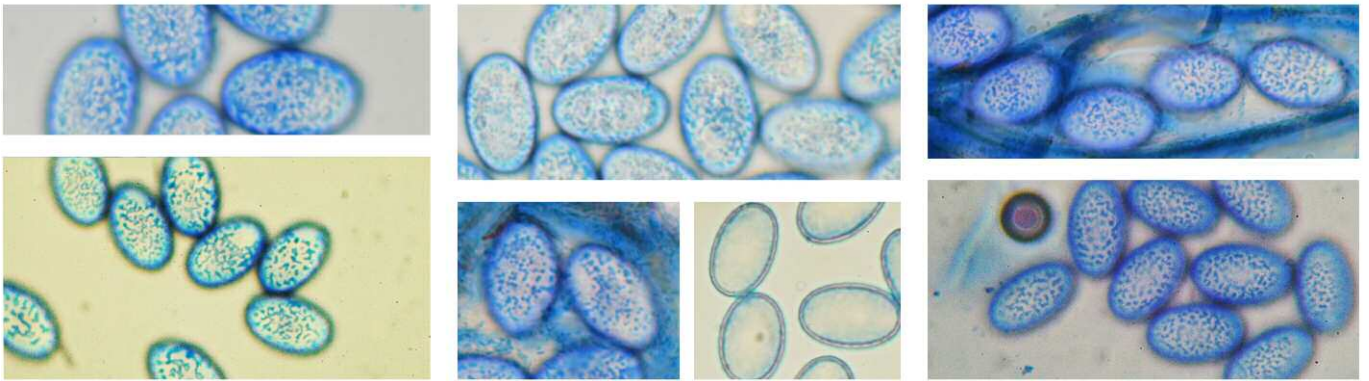


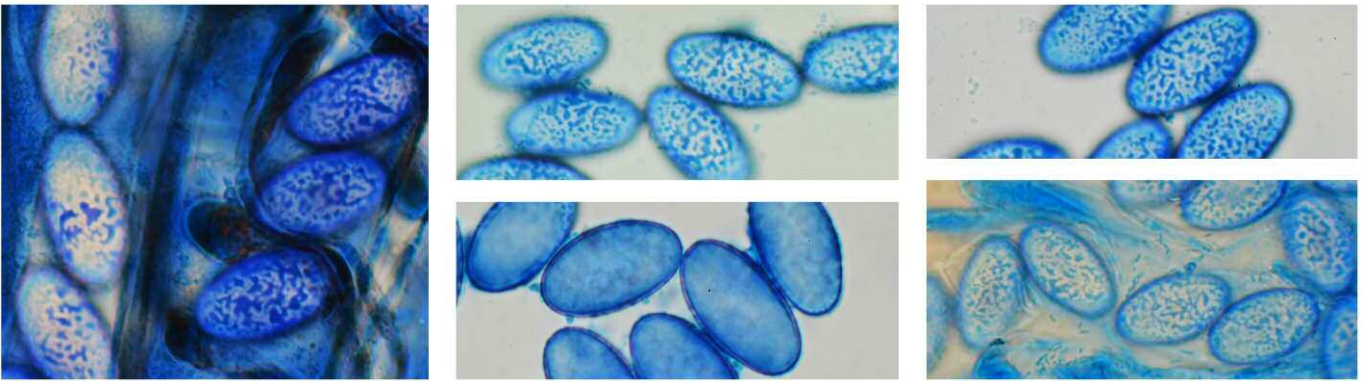
Fig. 34 – *Scutellinia colensoi* (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 35** – *Scutellinia pilatii* (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 36** – *Scutellinia crinita* (various collections BJ)



**Fig. 37** – *Scutellinia scutellata* complex (various collections BJ)



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