

HORMODENDRUM

CLASS: Fungi Imperfecti

ORDER: Moniliales

FAMILY: Dematiaceae

GENUS: Hormodendrum (Cladosporium)

MACROSCOPIC VIEW: (Sabouraud Agar) The colonies are a dark olive-green with a folded, velvet-like surface. Radial striations run from the center of the colony to the periphery.

MICROSCOPIC VIEW: The spores are elliptical with a smooth to spiny surface and are 3 to 7 microns in length. The spores are formed by budding, and appear as clusters on the end of the conidiophore.

COMMON SOURCE: Decomposing plants, leather, rubber, cloth, paper and wood products. In nature, the spores are released to the atmosphere in great numbers after rains and damp weather.

ALLERGENIC IMPORTANCE: Hormodendrum is the most abundant mold spore identified in air samples and often occurs as heavy showers of spores. Hormodendrum ranks second only to Alternaria in the frequency of symptoms from inhalation of spores.