

Ciborinia Whetzel

Type species: *Ciborinia whetzelii* (Seaver) Seaver. The genus *Ciborinia* is a heterogeneous assemblance of species characterized by an apothecial outer excipulum consisting of globose cells (textura globulosa) NOT embedded in a gelatinous matrix, hyaline, unicellular ascospores, the production of \pm discoid sclerotia, and lacking a macroconidial anamorphic state. *Ciborinia* should probably be restricted to a group of leaf parasites on amentiferous trees, including the type species *C. whetzelii* on leaves of *Populus*. A number of taxa are keyed out here on the basis of the traditional generic character of a discoid, differentiated stroma. See also [Botryotinia](#), [Ciboria](#), [Myriosclerotinia](#), [Scleromitrlula](#) (= *Verpatinia*) and [Valdensinia](#).

Literature: Whetzel ([1945](#)), Buchwald ([1947](#)), Batra & Korf ([1959](#)), Batra ([1960](#)), Holst-Jensen & al. ([1997a](#), [1997b](#)), Schumacher & Holst-Jensen ([1997](#)).

1. On leaves of deciduous trees [2](#).

1. On other tissues, e.g. leaves of herbs, grasses, fruits etc. [3](#).

2 (1). Stroma up to 1 mm thick, elongate, to 10 mm broad and 30 mm long, surrounding the midrib of overwintering leaves, \pm detached from leaf plate, sclerotial rind black, inner medulla white, on leaves of *Salix phylicifolia*. Apothecia dark to medium pale brown, disc 2-5 mm diam., stipe slender, up to 25 x 1 mm. Asci 120-140 x 8-10 μ m. Ascospores uniseriate, ellipsoid, hyaline, 5 x 9-13 μ m *Ciborinia* aff. *foliicola* (E. K. Cash & R. W. Davids.) Whetzel



Apothecium of *Ciborinia* aff. *foliicola* on stromatized leaf nerve of *Salix phylicifolia*, Norway, Hedmark, Snødøldalen, June 13th 1996. (© Photo: Arne Holst-Jensen)

2. Apothecia from petioles and leaf nerves of *Quercus* and *Castanea* see [Scleromitrlula candolleana](#)

There are at least four additional species from Northern Europe on leaves of various deciduous trees and shrubs, most frequently on *Betula* and *Salix*. The taxonomy of this group is under investigation in our lab.

3 (1). On monocot hosts [4](#).

3. A number of small-sized species with brownish or black discoid to crustlike sclerotia are found on decaying leaves of *Vaccinium* spp. in spring. The group is currently under investigation in our lab.



Apothecia of a possibly undescribed species with morphological affinity to *Ciborinia*. The long-stipitate gracile apothecia arise from discoid pale brownish stromata on decaying *Vaccinium uliginosum* leaf. The taxon is easy to cultivate on artificial media, and molecular data support a distinction from the true *Ciborinia* spp. Norway, Akershus, Eidsvoll, Frilsetåsen, June 15th 1996. (© Photo: Arne Holst-Jensen)

4 (3). Apothecia from shell-like sclerotia on stems and leaf sheaths of *Eriophorum* and *Carex* See [Myriosclerotinia ciborium](#)

4. Apothecia from ± free-lying flat sclerotia associated with liliaceous hosts, note the North American species "*Ciborinia* " *allii* L. M. Kohn, "*Ciborinia* " *erythronii* (Whetzel) Whetzel and "*Ciborinia* " *gracilis* (Clements) Whetzel. **None of these are at present known from the Nordic countries.**

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