

Comatricha elegans (Racib) G. Lister

MEL328 0125

Date: 15 June 2014. Black Sugarloaf, Birralee (swamp).

Habitat: *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest.

Substrate outer shell of decorticated *Acacia melanoxylon* log.

Description gregarious stalked sporangia, 1.5–1.7 mm high.

Sporotheca globose, brown, 0.3–0.6 mm diameter. **Stalk** subulate, black, 1.2–1.4 mm long, fibrous at base by transmitted light. **Hypothallus** inconspicuous. **Peridium** fugacious. **Columella** short, divides just above stalk apex into several branches that give rise to the capillitium. **Capillitium** loose, slender. **Spores** brown in mass, light brown by transmitted light with lighter germination area, minutely warted, 9 μm .

Notes This species appeared several times in masses covering about 120 mm x 100 mm on the northern side of an *Acacia melanoxylon* log. The log is checked regularly and is often productive. Other species collected from the log include *Arcyria* sp., *Physarum viride*, *P. nutans*, *Badhamia utricularis*, *P. album*, *Diderma* sp. and *Trichia* sp.

