Comatricha nigra (Pers. ex J.F. Gmel.) J. Schröt.

Date: Sept. 2013. Black Sugarloaf, Birralee (swamp). Habitat: Melaleuca ericifolia swamp forest. Substrate upturned roots of Acacia melanoxylon. Description several groups of gregarious stalked sporangia, brown, 2.3-3.6 mm high. Sporotheca globose to sub-globose, 0.4-0.5 mm diameter. Stalk up to eight times diameter of sporotheca, subulate, black; reddish brown, fibrous and netted at base by transmitted light. Hypothallus discoid or contiguous under groups, membranous, conspicuous, reddish brown and silvery. Peridium fugacious. Columella reaches just above the middle of the sporotheca where it merges into capillitium. Capillitium slender network of branching threads with free slightly swollen tips. Spores dark brown in mass, brown by transmitted light with lighter germination area, minutely warted, 9–10 µm. Notes Common on dead wood.



