

PEZIZA SACCARDIANA Cookein *Mycographia* p. 174, pl. 78 fig. 302 (1877)

Habitat: on damp soil.

Distribution: Europe (photo: Surrey, Norbury Park, on damp soil, 30 June 1991, Legon).

Apothecia 1.5-5 (-8) cm diam, cupulate, expanding with age, solitary or clustered, sessile. *Disc* concave, reddish-brown, darkening with age, smooth, margin entire. *Receptacle* paler than the disc, fawn or pale reddish-brown, furfuraceous. *Flesh* without coloured latex. *Asci* 300-360 × 12-16 (-18) μm, 8-spored, cylindric, apex obtuse, staining blue in Melzer's Reagent. *Ascospores* 13-16 × 9-10 μm, ellipsoid, containing a single large guttule, hyaline, ornamented with irregular warts 0.5-1.5 μm diam, and short ridges. *Paraphyses* simple, cylindric, obtuse, slightly enlarged towards the apex to 5-7 μm diam, usually with pale brownish pigment in the upper part, sparsely septate. *Excipulum* dark brown in section, 600-800 μm thick, comprising an outermost layer 300-400 μm thick of subglobose cells 30-50 μm diam, overlying a narrower layer of thin-walled, septate, inflated hyphae lying mostly parallel to the surface, and an innermost layer of thin-walled, subglobose or ellipsoid cells mostly 15-25 μm diam, smaller towards the hymenium.

Pezizales — Pezizaceae — *Peziza* Pers.

Other remarks: This species was described from Italy and France and has not been previously reported from the British Isles. It is recognised by the reddish-brown disc, furfuraceous receptacle, rather coarsely ornamented, uniguttulate spores which are mostly less than 16 μm in length, and habitat on damp soil.

REFERENCES:

BRESADOLA (1933), *Icon. Mycol.* pl. 1212 (as *Aleuria depressa*); DONADINI (1982), *Le Genre Peziza dans le Sud-Est de la France* p.62-63; HOHMEYER (1986), *Zeitschr. Mykol.* 52: 176, pl. 2 fig. 4, III fig. 11.

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