

Web-links: [Index Fungorum](#), [Facesoffungi](#), [Mycobank](#)

[Bleximothyrium](#) Le Renard, Upchurch, Stockey & Berbee (Fossil)

Bleximothyrium is a monotypic fossil genus having affinity with the *Pezizomycotina*, *Dothideomycetes*. The genus was found on agymnospermous (ginkgophyte or cycad) leaf cuticle preserved in the clays of the Lower Zone 1 of the Potomac Group in Virginia USA (usually dating back to early Cretaceous, Aptian, 125–113 Mya) ([Le Renard et al. 2021](#)). The leaf cuticle was colonized by 21 sporocarps of a single fungal morphotype ([Le Renard et al. 2021](#)). This genus is characterized by ostiolate scutellum of radiate, dichotomizing hyphae ([Le Renard et al. 2021](#)). The type species, *B. ostiolatum* Le Renard, Upchurch, Stockey & Berbee, has tangled hyphae at its scutellum margin (Le Renard et al. 2021). *Bleximothyrium* is the oldest known fossil flyspeck fungus that occurs on plant cuticles (Le Renard et al. 2021). The genus is having gradiate, ostiolate scutellum which is known only from *Dothideomycetes* (Le Renard et al. 2021). The fossil taxon may belong to *Microthyriaceae* (*Microthyriales*, *Dothideomycetes*).

Reference

Le Renard L., Stockey R., Upchurch G. & Berbee M.L. 2021 – Extending the fossil record for foliicolous *Dothideomycetes*: *Bleximothyrium ostiolatum* gen. et sp. nov., a unique flyspeck fungus from the Lower Cretaceous of Virginia, USA. *American Journal of Botany* 108(1):129–144. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajb2.1602>

Entry by

Ramesh K. Saxena, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow-226007, Uttar Pradesh, India.

(Edited by **Chayanard Phukhamsakda** and **Kevin D Hyde**)

Published online 2 December 2022