

Mazaedia I:

(Sing. Mazaedium)

Mazaedia are reproductive bodies where the **ascus walls** disintegrate early producing a **powdery mass of ascospores** on the surface of the reproductive body so that it appears covered in a sooty mass of spores (if touched this dust comes off on your fingers).

Mazaedia are found in a range of structures and lichen families, the most familiar being the 'pin lichens' with **stalked apothecia** such as **Calicium** species (Caliciaceae) and species of **Chaenotheca** and **Sclerophora** (Coniocybaceae), often found on exposed lignin and bark of ancient trees.

