**Asterophora lycoperdoides** (Bull.) Ditmar:S.F. Gray

*Powder cap*

**Description:**
mushroom; fungicolous fungus

**Fruiting Body:** cap 1-2 cm; stalk central, 2-3 cm long x 3-10 mm diameter. **Spore Print Color:** basidiospores white; chlamydospores tan brown. **Spores:** basidiospores 3-6 x 2-4 µm, ellipsoid, smooth, hyaline, inamylloid in Melzer’s reagent; chlamydospores 13-20 x 10-20 µm, with light brown thick walls and spines, inamylloid.

[Map of Iowa showing distribution]

[Image of Asterophora lycoperdoides]

http://www.herbarium.iastate.edu/fungi/fungispecies.php?sp=Asterophora+lycoperdoides+%28Bull.%29+Ditmar%3AS+F+Gray
Diagnostic macroscopic feature: small white mushrooms growing on caps of Russula or Lactarius which are sometimes too degenerated to identify, covered in tan-brown powdery asexual spores

Diagnostic microscopic feature: chlamydospores produced from cap surface have spines, which were the inspiration for the name Asterophora

Nutritional Mode: parasitic
Substrate: on mushrooms, particularly Russula and Lactarius
Habitat: woods
Fruiting Season: summer, fall

Kingdom: Fungi
Phylum: Basidiomycota
Order: Agaricales

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