Arthromitus chasei has been deposited in the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD 20852). The culture withstands desiccation (for at least two years) and freezing (for at least three weeks). The cultured cells may be raised to at least 70°C for at lest 10 min. They are heat killed if boiled for more than 10 min. The cultured cells can grow on hard agar (1.5%); they lose the differentiation of the spore attachment fibers and tend toward short filaments and even unicells (Fig. 1). Work to formally revive the genus name for publication in the *International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology* and assess the relationship between *Arthromitus* and other soil bacili is under way.

We thank Laura Nault for recent aid with this project. This work was supported by NASA Life Sciences.



Cultured Arthromitus sp. from Zootermopsis angusticollis.

Reference

Margulis, L., Olendzenski, L., and Afzelius, B.A. 1990. Endospore-forming filamentous bacteria symbiotic in termites: Ultrastructure and growth in culture of *Arthromitus*. *Symbiosis* 8: 95–116.