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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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cleis·to·the·ci·um  (klī'stə-thē sē-əm)

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n. pl. cleis·to·the·ci·a (-sē-ə)

Botany

A closed spherical ascocarp.

[New Latin : Greek *kleistos*, closed (from *kleiein*, to close) + Greek *thēkion*, small case, diminutive of *thēkē*, receptacle; see **dhē-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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