

A NEW RECORD OF ALTERNARIA NELUMBII ENLWS AND RAND IN THE INDO-PAKISTAN SUB-CONTINENT

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In October, 1957, a few leaves of *Nelumbium speciosum* were collected from a pond in Sukkur, Sind, and were found to show spots of varying sizes scattered all over the surface. The spots were light to deep brown in colour (deeper colour on the upper surface and lighter on the lower surface), and were mostly round, oval, elongated or irregular in shape, measuring 3x2 mm. to 10x7 mm. These spots were at first very minute but gradually enlarged in size. Microscopic examination revealed that the fungus responsible for causing the disease was *Alternaria*.

The literature on this subject shows that in the whole of the Indo-Pakistan sub-continent there is no record of this fungus on the particular host examined, although in North America, *Alternaria nelumbii* Enlows and Rand has been reported on this host.

In the present investigation, the fungus was studied in culture medium (P.D.A.) as well as on the host and the following observations were made, cf. Figs. 1 and 2. Fructification on upper surface, conidiophores short, septate, light brown

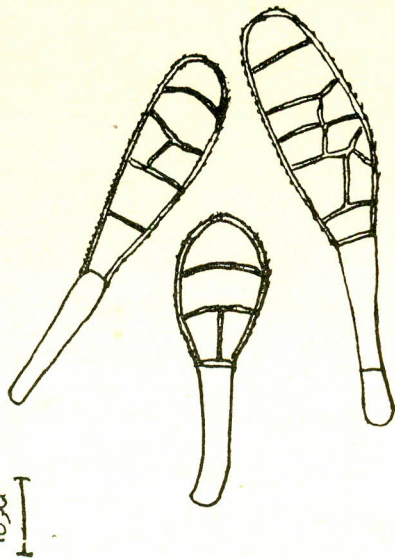


Fig. 1.—*Alternaria nelumbii* Enlows and Rand on *Nelumbium Speciosum*.

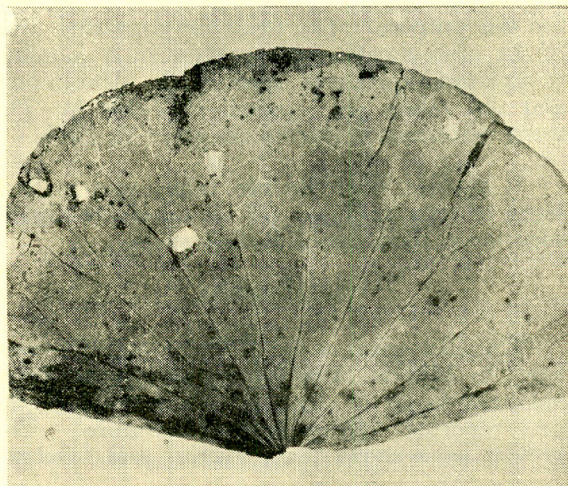


Fig 2.—A part of the infected leaf of *Nelumbium speciosum*.

in colour, 65 to 130 μ \times 3.8 to 5.9 μ . Conidia muriform deep brown when matured, walls slightly coriaceous, oblong to obclavate, rarely globose measuring 25 to 56 μ \times 10 μ , beak slightly longer on host leaves than in culture medium. Round to globose, one to two celled conidia were also frequently observed.

Locality: In a pond in the suburbs of Sukkur Barrage, Sukkur, Sind.

Date of collection: October 20, 1957.

Collected by: S.A. Qadir Junaidi.

Specimen: At the Mycological Herbarium of the Department of Botany, University of Karachi, and at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, Surrey, England (Accession No. 71908).

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