

Short Communications

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A NEW DISEASE OF VANN OR PEELO (*SALVADORA OLEOIDES* DECSN) CAUSED BY *NIGROSPORA* SP. IN PAKISTAN

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During 1973 the leaves of *Salvadora oleoides* Decsn. 'vann' or 'peelo' plant were collected from the vicinity of Lyallpur and found to be attacked by some fungus. The fungus was isolated on potato-dextrose agar and identified to be a *Nigrospora* sp. which appears to be a new disease of *S. oleoides* and is described here in some detail.

Symptoms on the Host Plant. The spots on the leaves 1-3 mm dia, present on both sides, more prominent on the upper surface, circular to oblong, with black dots, brown in the centre with light brown margins.

Characters of the Fungus. Colonies white at early stage of growth, later becoming brown and finally black with abundant sporulation. Fertile hyphae septate 3.5-10 μ with an average of 6.1 μ thick. Ultimate branches bear hyaline conidiophores. Conidiophores short (20 μ long), nonseptate, simple, determinate, bulged at the top, the bulged position subspherical,

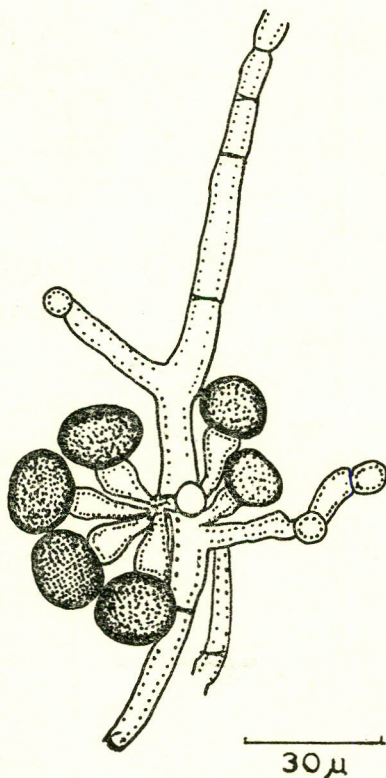


Fig. 1.

hyaline; usually growing in a whorl (Fig. 1). Conidia solitary, simple, smooth, 1-celled, globose to subglobose, at first hyaline, later becoming brown to black, compressed dorsiventrally, ranging from 10-17 μ with an average of 13.8 μ dia.

Of the recorded species so far available in the literature,¹ the species under study is closely related to *N. oryzae*. However, it differed from *N. oryzae* in the conidial range and average size. Hence, the author is of the opinion that it should be treated as *Nigrospora oryzae* on this host plant. This host is new to this fungus. The specimens are preserved in the mycological herbarium of the department of Plant Pathology, Agricultural University, Lyallpur (No. MHL 1986).

Reference

1. M. B. Ellis, *Dematiaceous Hyphomycetes* (Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, England, 1971).

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A NEW HOST (*TRIBULUS TERRESTRIS* L.) FOR *COLLETOTRICHUM DEMATIUM* IN PAKISTAN

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Bakra (*Tribulus terrestris* L.) is an important weed of summer crops, e.g. maize, mung, cowpeas and mash. Its thorny-schizocarpic fruit is harmful during harvesting of the summer crops.

Only one fungus *Ascochyta tribuli* has been recorded on the seeds of this host in U.S.S.R.¹

As far as the author is aware, it seems to be a new record on this host. For taxonomic studies key by Von Arx was followed.²

Symptoms of the Host. The specimens were collected from Research Area of the Plant Pathology Depart-



Fig. 1. Acervuli of *Colletotrichum dematium* on the host.

ment, Agricultural University, Lyallpur, during July–August, 1973. The dried specimens appeared silvery white with black dots of the fruiting bodies (acervuli) on them.

The Fungus. (a) Acervuli: Cushion-shaped, brown, single, subepidermal, spreading on stems of the host, $65.9\text{--}235.3 \times 65.9\text{--}188.2 \mu$ (Fig. 1).

(b) Setae: Numerous, filiform-needle-shaped, narrow and long, arising among the conidiophores, ends slightly pointed at the apex; 2–3 septate, base slightly broad; $63.8\text{--}241.3 \times 2.6\text{--}9.0 \mu$.

(c) Conidiophores: Cylindrical, simple, hyaline,

non-septate, numerous, bearing conidia endogenously, $12.70\text{--}16.5 \times 2.0\text{--}2.5 \mu$.

(d) Conidia: Crescent-shaped, hyaline, pointed at both ends or tapering gradually at both ends, $20.4\text{--}26.7 \times 2.6\text{--}2.8 \mu$.

References

1. Anonymous, Natl. Syst. Sect. Crypt. Inst. Botan. Acad. Sci. (U.S.S.R.), **5**, 160 (1945); Index of Fungi II: 422, 1950–60.
2. J.A. Von Arx, Phytopathol. Z., **29**, 413 (1957).

