

On dead leaves of *Cymbopogon martini* Stapf. (*Rosha gavat*) collected by P. G. Patwardhan, August-September 1963, at Khandala, India.

The fungus genus is a new addition to the fungi of India and *Cymbopogon martinii* Stapf. a new host record for *E. caudata* (PK) Sacc.

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M.A.C.S. Laboratory, P. G. PATWARDHAN.  
Poona-4, March 28, 1964.

1. Saccardo, P. A., *Sylloge Fungorum*, 1886, 4, 315.
2. Sprague, R., *Diseases of Cereals and Grasses in North America*, Rohald Press Co., New York, 1950, p. 320.

#### OCCURRENCE OF *ERYSIPHE GRAMINIS* VAR. *TRITICEI* IN BOMBAY—MAHARASHTRA

DURING December 1963 the writers noticed several cultures of wheat growing in the Nursery of Wheat Research Station at Mahabaleshwar (elevation 4,500 ft.) affected by a powdery mildew. The disease was of moderate intensity and was specially found at the 'boot stage' in the *Durum* as well as 'Vulgare' varieties obtained from Gujarat grown in the experimental plots. The prolonged cool weather prevailing during the growing season appeared to favour development of this mildew which was found only in the oidial stage. A careful search for the perithecial stage was made without success.

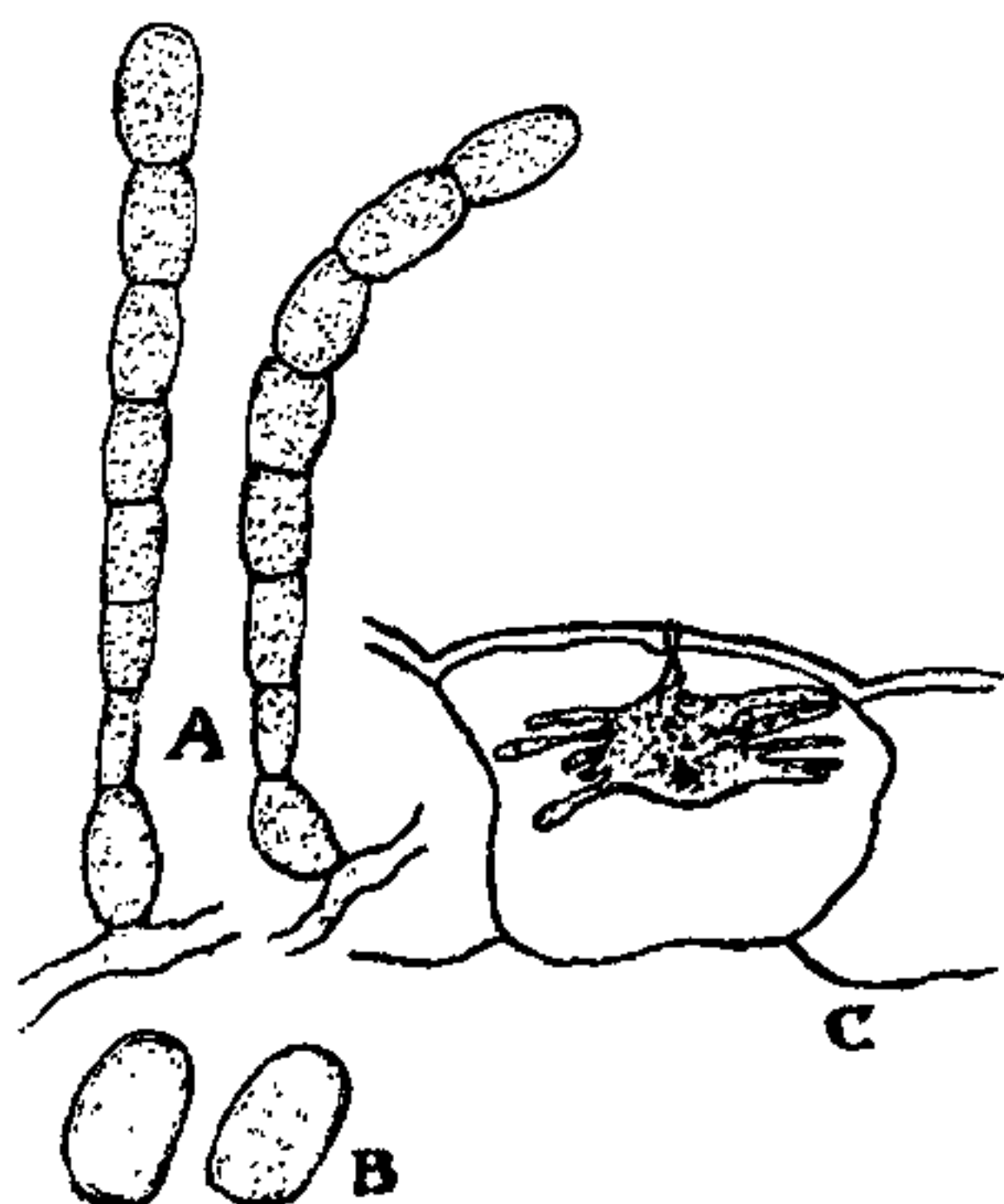


FIG. 1. A. Conidiophores with bulbous base,  $\times 70$ . B. Conidia,  $\times 70$ . C. Haustorium in the epidermal cell,  $\times 230$ .

The mildew affecting the stems and leaves was critically examined in sections, which revealed the presence of an ectophytic creeping

mycelium sending forked haustoria into the epidermal cells and producing vertical conidiophores with a characteristic bulbous base and bearing typically oval hyaline conidia in long persistent chains. Conidia measured  $18-40 \times 9-19 \mu$ . No appreciable effect was noticed in the affected plants in respect of yield.

On the basis of the distinctive conidial characters the mildew was identified as *Erysiphe graminis* f. *triticei* Marchal. The mildew is a new report to this state.

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#### A NEW DISEASE OF CORIANDER CAUSED BY *COLLETOTRICHUM* *CAPSICI* (SYD.) BUTLER AND BISBY FROM INDIA

A SERIOUS disease of coriander (*Coriandrum sativum* L.) caused by *Colletotrichum capsici* has recently been observed. The disease manifests mainly on the inflorescence and is characterised at the time of flowering. In the beginning young pedicels, at the juncture of flowers, are infected, they become pale and droop. The disease rapidly spreads and in most cases, flowers do not open and are killed. The disease also extends downwards thereby killing the whole inflorescence and in severe cases leaves also. In such cases seeds are not formed and the inflorescence appears blighted. In cases where infection comes late, undeveloped and shrivelled seeds may be formed. In still other cases, it is not uncommon to find completely blighted and healthy seeds in one and the same inflorescence.

Pathogenicity tests were carried out before flowering and after flowering by spraying spore suspension from 15 days old culture. Symptoms appeared after 12 days of inoculation in the latter case and only on inflorescence which later on extended to the adjacent leaves.

The mycelium is inter- and intracellular and does not form haustoria. The fungus forms acervuli in abundance on potato-dextrose agar. The acervuli measure  $332.0 \mu$  on an average, and the setae  $52.5-270.0 \mu$ . Conidia are single-celled, fulcate, vacuolated, hyaline and measure  $20.6-31.6 \times 3.7 \mu$ . The fungus has been identified as *Colletotrichum capsici* (Syd.) Butler and Bisby. This appears to be a first record of the fungus on *Coriandrum sativum* L.

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