**Occurrence of the Hyperparasite *Cerebella* on Ergot of Bajra [*Pennisetum typhoides* (Burm F.) Stapf and C. E. Hubb.]**

During the course of routine survey in the *Kharif* season for phytopathogenic fungi in Kaira District of Gujarat State unusual infection spots were noticed overgrowing on the ergot affected spikelets of Bajra (*Pennisetum typhoides*). The infection was characterized by raised sticky masses of fungal colonies turning the affected spikelets to dark thick compact pustules. The infection was restricted to ergot affected spikelets showing its hyperparasitic nature resulting in non-development of the ergot bodies. Microscopic examination of the fungal pustules revealed them to be in the nature of sporodochia of a species of *Cerebella*. A search through literature revealed no report of any species of *Cerebella* on Bajra. So far although Ajrekar[1] has reported *Cerebella sorghi vulgaris*, L. S. Subr. as a hyperparasite on sugary disease (*Sphacelia sorghi*) of Sorghum.

*Diagnosis and Identification of the Fungus* :

Sporodochia convoluted, dark, compact, conidiophores short, often branched, pale brown, smooth, measure 3–6 $\mu$ in length. Conidia terminal, multicellular (avg. 4 to 5), variable in shape, globular, muriform with cross to oblique septa, constricted at septa, smooth walled, with basal cell, brown to dark-brown, measure 7·40–25·60 × 7·40–22·$\mu$ (avg. 16·60 × 13·40 $\mu$). On the basis of these characters and dimensions, the fungus was identified as *Cerebella andropogonis* Ces[2].

This constitutes the first known report of *Cerebella andropogonis* Ces. on ergot [*Claviceps microcephala* (Waller) Tul.] of Bajra.

The material has been deposited at the Ajrekar Mycological Herbarium of M.A.C.S., Poona, under No. AMH 2201.

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M.A.C.S. Research Institute, Poona-4 (India), *September* 6, 1974.

C. S. Kulkarni.
L. Moniz.

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**Insect Antifeedants Against Snail *Opeas gracile* (Hutton)**

Insect antifeedants are chemicals preventing insects from feeding on treated foliage, without killing or even repelling them. They have been found successful against insect pests by many workers in India and abroad[1,2]. The present note reports results on the effect of three insect antifeedants on a snail, *Opeas gracile* H. attacking vegetable crops in Kerala.

Pre-weighed pea leaves were sprayed with fentin acetate, fentin chloride and AC–24055 at 0·1 and 0·2% concentrations using an atomiser. Leaves sprayed with distilled water were kept as control. After air-drying, the leaves were transferred to glass chimneys over petri-dishes and ten snails of equal age were liberated inside for feeding *ad libitum*. Leaves were also kept as check to assess the natural reduction in weight during the experimental period of 48 hours. The leaves were again weighed after the experiment.

All the three compounds successfully inhibited the feeding activity of the snails. The triazene compound AC–24055 ranked first followed by fentin chloride and fentin acetate. The corrected percentages of leaf protected by weight were 60·8, 67·9, 65·4, 74·3, 95·7 and 100·0 in 0·1 and 0·2% fentin acetate, fentin chloride and AC–24055 compound respectively.

College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Kerala, *August* 26, 1974.

P. A. Rajan Asari.
D. Dale.

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**The Pachytene Chromosome of Jute (*Corchorus olitorius* L.)**

Dr. R. M. Datta, Agricultural Department, Calcutta University, writes that the information about "The pachytene chromosomes of Jute (*Corchorus olitorius* L.)" published by P. Paria and S. L. Basak (*Current Science*, 1973, 42, p. 832) has already been reported by him in *Nucleus*, 1968, p. 43.