ADDITION TO INDIAN FUNGI

During the mycological studies, authors have isolated two interesting fungi. A scrutiny of the list of Indian Fungi in literatures indicated that these are new for the Indian record.

(I) *Verticillium lacanii* (Zimm) Vieges.

Isolated from Sawdust at Gyanpur during January 1977. The specimen has been deposited in C.M.I., Kew, England (I.M.I. No. 227852).

(II) *Uколладум chartarum* (Preuss) Simmons.

Isolated from Sawdust at Gyanpur during September 1977. The culture has been deposited in C.M.I., Kew, England (I.M.I. No. 227870).

The authors thank the Director, C.M.I., Kew, England, for identification of specimens and Prof. V. S. Srivastava, Head of Department of Botany, for laboratory facilities.

Department of Botany, A. K. Srivastav.

DAMPING OFF OF CARDAMOM CAUSED BY *RHIZOCTONIA SOLANI* KUHN

A nursery disease of cardamom (*Elettaria cardamomum* Maton) characterised by damping off of the seedlings in the primary nursery beds was noticed during the monsoon months of 1976, at the Cardamom Research Station, Pampadumpara in the Idukki District of Kerala State.

Symptoms appeared after the emergence of the seedlings. The collar region of infected seedlings exhibited light brown discoloration in the early stages. As the infection advanced, the colour became dark brown and such seedlings collapsed and decayed (Fig. 1). In the case of older seedlings, as the collar region became brown, the lower leaves appeared watersoaked and later on became dingy white to yellowish-brown and parchment-like. Infected seedlings eventually collapsed at the collar, shrivelled and died in patches. On uprooting the infected seedlings, the basal regions including the young developing rhizomes appeared dirty brown and decayed. Roots were similarly affected (Fig. 2).

![Fig. 2](image_url)

**Fig. 2.** Left—Infected seedlings—roots decayed, Right—Healthy seedling.

The fungus was isolated and brought to pure culture on Czapek’s agar medium. Artificial inoculations proved the fungus to be highly pathogenic to cardamom seedlings. Rotting of well developed rhizomes also occurred, when artificially inoculated with the fungus.

The fungus was identified as *Rhizoctonia solani* Kuhn. A culture of the fungus has been deposited at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, England (IMI No. 227934).

Subba Rao¹ reported a rhizome rot of cardamom associated with *Rhizoctonia solani* and nematodes. There is no record of this fungus causing damping off.

The authors wish to thank Dr. J. E. M. Mordue of the C.M.I., Kew, England, for confirming the identity of the fungus.

College of Agriculture, K. I. Wilson.
Vellayani, Kerala, P. S. Sasi.

---


TERMITOMYCES MICROCARPUS, A NEW INDIAN EDIBLE MUSHROOM

*Termitomyces microcarpus* (Berk and Br.) Heim, a popular and delicious edible mushroom was collected from the University Farm at Kalyani, West Bengal, during August, 1977. This fungus was found to occur in large numbers on termite mounds. The mushroom appeared after a few showers of rain and lasted only for a few days.

The basidiocarps (Fig. 1) are centrally stipitate, slightly umbonate; greyish white but olive brown

---

![Fig. 1](image_url)

**Fig. 1.** Left—Heathy, Right—Infected seedlings.
in the umbonal region; Pileus 1–2 cm wide, gills free, white; stipe 2–5 cm long, slightly enlarged at the base, white, solid; pseudorhiza not distinct, sometimes absent, penetrating 1–3 cm below the soil but without volva; both hymenophoral trama and cuticular trama are regular; Basidia clavate, 28–32 × 6·5–9·0 μ, tetrasporadige; Cystidia cylindrical 31–36 × 5–6·5 μ, rare; Epore print white to greyish yellow, nonamyloid; Basidiospores ellipsoid, smooth, thinwalled, 6·5–7 × 3·5–4·5 μ.

Department of Plant Pathology, D. K. CHAKRAVARTY.
Faculty of Agriculture, D. C. KHATUA.
Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa
Vidyalaya,
Kalyani, Nadia, West Bengal,

1. Purakayasha, R. P., and Chandra, A., Indian
Ltd., 1976.

AN UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF STILBOSPORA
(COELOMYCETES) FROM MAHARASHTRA

During a mycological survey around Poona, an interesting species of Stilbospora Pers. ex Merat. was collected on dead twigs of Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels (= Eugenia jambolana Lamk.) forming crust-like acervular colonies. For its diagnosis and specific identity the fungus was studied in detail with respect to morphology and dimensions of various fruiting structures. Further, it was also compared with other known species of Stilbospora including the type species, viz., S. macrospora Pers. and found to differ greatly in the size of acervuli and conidia. It is, therefore, described here as a new species.

Stilbospora poonensis sp. nov. (Fig. 1).


The authors are grateful to Dr. S. B. Chattopadhyaya, Vice-Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya for his interest in this investigation.