

could not utilise this substrate as the sole source of carbon. All the three strains were negative to the indol, urease and gelatin liquefaction tests.

Penicillin, in a final concentration of 5 IU per millilitre of the medium, was resisted by the three strains. Based on the above-mentioned tests, the three isolates were identified as *Acenitobacter calcoaceticus*¹. Antibiotic sensitivity tests⁵ conducted on the three strains revealed their sensitivity to Gentamicin and Kanamycin. The affected mares were treated with Gentamicin by the intrauterine route for three days. Cervical swabs taken, one week after the last dose of treatment, were found bacteriologically sterile.

There are no reports of the isolation of *Acenitobacter calcoaceticus* from the cervical swabs of mares suffering from metritis and endometritis. However, there is only one report of its isolation from the uterus of a barren mare¹. The organisms, in the present study, might have gained entry into the genital tract from the exterior as they are found in soil and water. It is interesting to note that of late *Acenitobacter calcoaceticus* has been isolated from various clinical conditions and may be an emerging pathogen of the urino-genital tract of the equines.

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DRECHSLERA CYNODONTIS CAUSING LEAF SPOT DISEASE ON SUDAN GRASS

DURING the winter in 1979, the authors noticed a severe leaf spot disease on Sudan grass [*Sorghum vulgare* var. *sudanense* (Piper) Hitchc] grown at Hebbal, Bangalore. The infected leaves showed minute dark brown spots which later enlarged forming linear spots measuring 6-8 mm long and 1.3 mm wide, often coalescing to form bit necrotic patches. Severe infection resulted in complete blighting of foliage. A careful microscopic examination of the infected plants revealed the presence of *Drechslera* sp.

Repeated isolations on acidified potato dextrose agar yielded a septate light grey to olivaceous mycelial mat with heavy sporulation. Conidiophores were solitary, occasionally in small groups, straight, geniculate, pale to light brown. Conidia were straight to slightly curved, fusiform to broadly ellipsoidal, dark olivaceous brown and smooth. Based on the morphological characters the fungus has been identified as *Drechslera cynodontis* (Marig.) Subram and Jain.

The culture has been deposited at CMI., Kew, Surrey, # 246 207 and the diseased specimen has been deposited at MYSP # 2002. The pathogenicity test was successfully carried out by spraying a week old virulent spore suspension and incubated in a humidifier. The characteristic lesions were noticed within 48 hr. Repeated isolations from such lesions yielded pathogenic culture of *D. cynodontis*. Bhowmik¹ and Misra *et al.*² recorded the occurrence of *Helminthosporium rostratum* on Sudan grass. Thus the present studies indicate that Sudan grass is a new host record for *D. cynodontis*.

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