

**PODOSPORA FAURELII,
A NEW COMPETITOR IN THE MUSHROOM
(VOLVARIELLA VOLVACEA) CULTIVATION**

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Podospora faurelii was found growing on spawned paddy straw mushroom bed. This fungus is the first record from India and elsewhere it has only been recorded in soil. During August 1979, when the temperature was ranging between 30–35°C at I.A.R.I., New Delhi, the growth of *Volvarella volvacea* was totally inhibited after spawning and the whole heap of paddy straw was covered with dark black spores mass of this inhibitory fungus resulting in a complete loss in yield. The culture and the specimen of *P. faurelii* has been deposited in ITCC and HCIO respectively at I.A.R.I., New Delhi 110 012.

Podospora faurelii Mouchacca in *Rev. Mycol.* 38, 109–113, 1975

The fungus readily grows on carrot potato agar and the colony attains a diameter of 6–7 cm at 28–30°C after twelve days of incubation. The colony is floccose, olive green, reverse dark green, pigments not diffusing

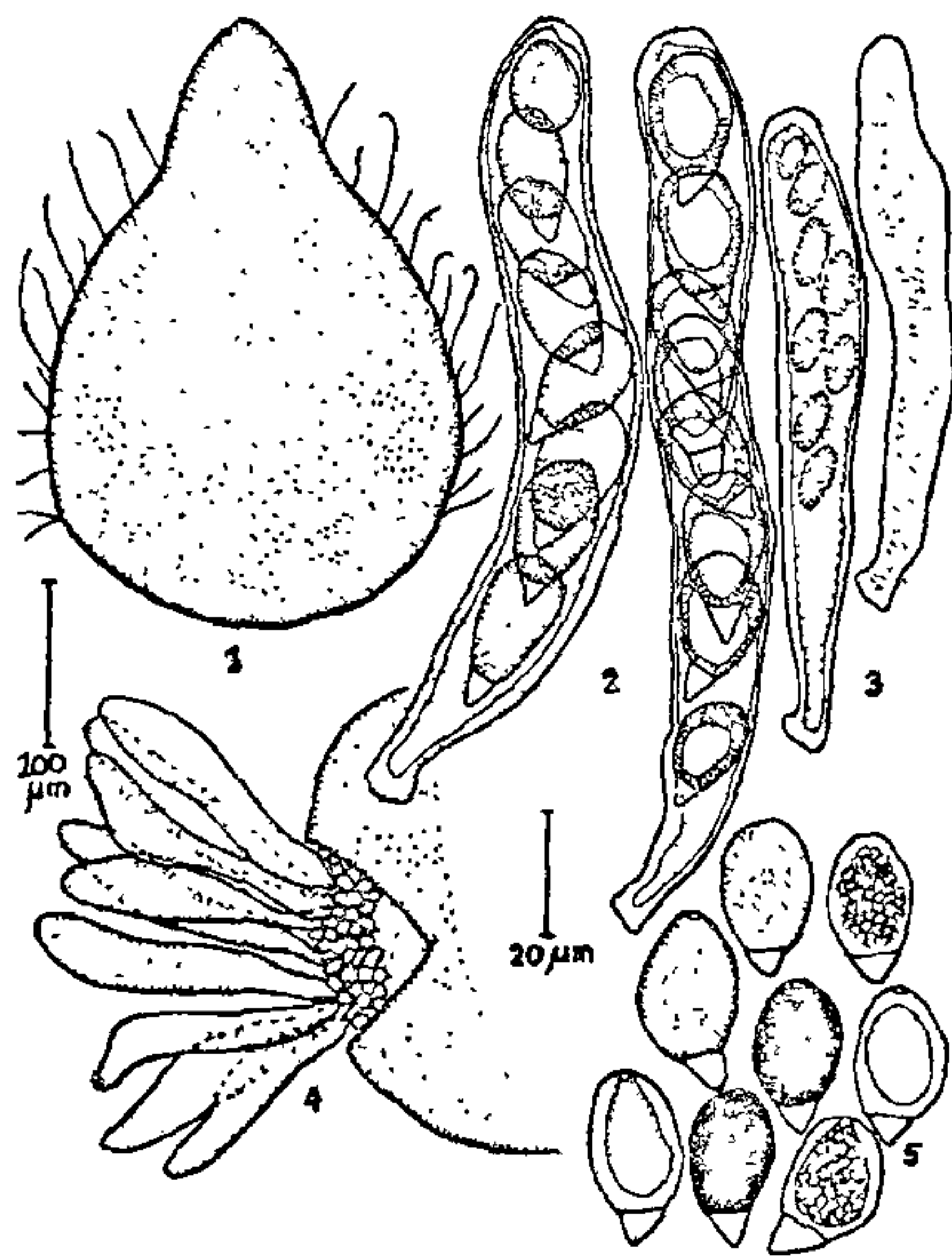
in agar medium. The basal mycelium is olive to dark brown. Perithecia form after 20–25 days, dispersed and immersed into the medium, globose to pyriform, 250–350 µm in size, covered with long flexuous, brown, septate, 2–3 µm wide hairs. Peridium moderately thick and light brown in colour. Asci 8 spored, cylindrical to long claviform, 140–180 × 15–20 µm, pedicillate, release in group on squeezing the perithecium. Apical pore not distinct. Paraphysis filiform, septate and evanescent. Ascospores uni- to biseriata, ellipsoid, 18–22 × 12–18 µm, olivaceous to dark brown. Primary appendage basal, triangular, hyaline, 4–6 µm in length and 3–5 µm in width. Secondary gelatinous appendage not present.

The Indian specimen differs from the type which was originally isolated from soil Kharga dans, Egypte descr't in having considerably smaller perithecia and basal appendage of ascospores (Figs. 1–5).

On decomposed *Oryza sativa* straw, N. Bahl and P. N. Chowdhry, I.A.R.I., New Delhi, ITCC 2732 and HCIO 33329.

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FIGS. 1–5. *Podospora faurelii*. Fig. 1. Perithecium. Fig. 2. Mature asci. Fig. 3. Immature asci. Fig. 4. Asci released from perithecium. Fig. 5. Ascospores.

**FOAM SPORA FROM ANDHRA PRADESH,
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Foam formed in well aerated streams, rivers, at barriers, stones and below water-falls acts as a trap for many fungal spores of aquatic and nonaquatic origin. Many fungal spores are readily captured by air bubbles. Mycoflora of foam has been studied in various parts of the world. However little or no information is available regarding foam mycoflora from India². Therefore foam samples were collected during 1978–79 from streams of Anantagiri and Mannanur forest localities and also from the Godavari river (Narsapur, West Godavari District). Fresh foam and foam samples fixed with few drops of formalin-alcohol (1:5) were scanned under the microscope and identified besides recording their spore abundance following standard methods¹.

TABLE I
Foam spora

Fungal species	Frequency
<i>Alatospora acuminata</i> Ingold	RA
<i>Beltrania</i> sp.	RA
<i>Chaetospermum elasticoe</i> Koorders	RA
<i>Clavariopsis bulbosa</i> Anastasiou	RA
<i>Diplocladiella scalaroides</i> Arnaud	FA
<i>Lunulospora curvula</i> Ingold	MA
<i>Robillarda sessilis</i> Sacc.	RA
<i>Tetraploa aristata</i> Berk. and Br.	MA
<i>Triscelophorus monosporus</i> Ingold	MA
Ascomycete spores	RA

MA—More abundant; FA—Frequent appearance; RA—Rare appearance.

All the fungi observed have been listed in Table I in relation to their abundance. It is evident that *Diplocladiella scalaroides*, *Lunulospora curvula*, *Tetraploa aristata* and *Triscelophorus monosporus* were either abundant or more frequent than other fungal spores. The conidia of *L. curvula* and *T. monosporus* were observed in foam and scum samples of rapidly flowing uncolluted stream of Kambakkam hills¹. Spores of *Clavariopsis bulbosa* and *Alatospora acuminata* were less frequent in appearance. Few spores of *Beltrania* sp., *Chaetospermum elasticae*, *Robillarda sessilis* and an unidentified ascomycete were also found in foam samples investigated. Among the fungi listed in Table I, *A. acuminata*, *C. bulbosa*, *D. scalaroides* and *L. curvula* are regarded as fungi of aquatic origin, while others have been classified as extra-aquatic.

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1. Ingold, C. T., *Aquatic and Water-borne Hyphomycetes*, F.B.J., Scientific Publ. 30, U.K., 1975.
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FUSARIUM REDOLENS WOLLENW.— A NEW PATHOGEN OF POTATO

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In April 1978, freshly harvested tubers of Kufri Jyoti were found to be seriously affected with *Fusarium* sp. Studies were carried out on the identification of the species and its pathogenicity on different potato varieties/hybrid.

The infected tubers developed circular lesions (1.0 cm dia) on the surface (Fig. 1), rotting of the bruised surface and dry rot patches. Within a week these developed typical dry rot symptoms with characteristic circular wrinkles on the affected areas when incubated at 20° C. Sporodochial pustules were also formed when incubated at 50–70% RH. On cutting, the underneath flesh showed light to dark brown discoloration.

Small infected pieces from disease samples were surface sterilized and placed on PDA. From all infected pieces only one type of fungal colonies grew. Colonies had relatively flat aerial mycelium and produced a pale reddish-brown colour in the medium. The surface of the colonies turned powdery in appearance due to subsequent sporulation. Microconidia formed on phialides were oval to cylindrical and measured 7–14 × 3–2–4.0 μ. Macroconidia were 3–5 septate,



FIG. 1. Tuber infected with *F. redolens* showing dark circular lesion.