

in other classes of algae as well. Such ranges of morphological features are not paralleled by bacteria. Besides, some of the vegetative reproductive features and their mode of formation are definitely advanced than in bacteria. In their ecological habitats, Cyanophyta share many common features as those of other classes of algae.

Another relevant and significant point is the founding of the Prochlorophyta⁹. The position of *Prochloron* a former *Synechocystis didemni* (Cyanophyta) that relates the blue-greens and greens clearly establishes the right position of Cyanophyta under algae.

It is reiterated that the objections against the renaming both ecological and practical are to be seriously viewed. A set of new rules and recommendations proposed by Gulubic³ to retain the blue-greens as algae look justifiable.

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OCCURRENCE OF UDABATTI DISEASE ON SORGHUM IN KARNATAKA

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DURING the kharif season of 1980, a crop of sorghum (*Sorghum vulgare* Pers.) variety CSH-1 was grown in the Main Research Station, Hebbal, Bangalore. A few earheads of sorghum showed symptoms typical to those of *Ephelis* infection on several graminaceous crops. All the florets in the whole of the attacked

earhead were greyish, chaffy and found pressed and glued to the main rachis. Microscopic examination of the fungus revealed the conidia to be acicular, hyaline, aseptate, straight or slightly curved and measured $11.4-22.8 \times 1.4-1.9 \mu$ with an average length of 17.0μ which was close to the spore size of *Ephelis oryzae* Syd. on *Oryza sativa* Linn. reported by Mohanty⁴.

The genus *Balansia* Speg. and its conidial form *Ephelis* Fr. are of widespread occurrence in India and particularly in South India on several grasses and cereals. Venkatakrishnaiya⁶ reported the first occurrence of *Ephelis* on two grasses namely, *Eragrostis tenuifolia* Hochst. and *Isachne elegans* Dalz. and later listed two more millets *Setaria italica* Beauv. and *Echinochloa crus-galli* Beauv. as its hosts. Govindu and Thirumalachar¹ reported an *Ephelis* species parasitising the spikelets of *Sorghum halepense* (Linn.) Pers. and have recorded the same on *Pennisetum hohenackeri* Hochst². Misra and Pall³ have recorded *E. oryzae* on *Eragrostis tremula* Hochst., *E. ciliaris* R.Br. var. *clarkei*, *Echinochloa colona* Link., *Pennisetum alopecuroides* Steud., *Paspalum distichum* Linn., *P. scrobiculatum* Linn. and *Setaria italica* Beauv. Mohanty⁴ recorded *Ephelis oryzae* on two grass hosts, *Microstegium nudum* A. Camus. and *Leptochloa chinensis* Nees. Reddy and Chennamma⁵ reported the occurrence of *E. oryzae* on *Pennisetum typhoides* (Burm.) Stapf. and Hubb. variety HB-3.

Based on the morphology of spore and its dimensions, *Sorghum vulgare* is considered as a new host, for *Ephelis oryzae*. The specimen is deposited in the mycological herbarium of the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (MYSP # 2014).

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