



Figures 1-3. 1. Completely rotted ear (above) and healthy ear (below). 2. Bird damaged ears. Note the increasing severity of infection from left to right. Healthy ear is on the extreme left. 3. Infected Kernels showing germination on the ear (vivipary). Healthy ear is on right.

2.) It was observed that most of the ears of border plants were damaged by birds leading to percolation and storage of rain water inside the ears followed by fungal invasion.

The dry examination of the damaged ears showed green colonies particularly on the seeds at the tip and the base of the ear whereas the seeds in the middle remained free from infection. In addition, the infected seeds at the base of the ear showed germination on the ear itself (figure 3).

These infected ears were incubated for the isolation of the fungus and the fungus was identified as *Trichoderma viride*^{1,2}.

Although *Trichoderma* spp. are used as antagonists against some seed-borne fungi, it reduces the germinability³ and is found to be pathogenic to maize seeds when the seeds were coated with *T. viride* as antagonist⁴. In addition, *T. viride* has been recorded in samples collected from different parts of Karnataka. The infected samples included 6 different cultivars. Our studies also showed that heavily infected seeds failed to germinate. *T. viride* which was isolated from the infected ear and kernels of maize was reinoculated to the healthy ears and kernels and similar symptoms were obtained.

Authors are grateful to Prof. K. M. Safeeulla for critical review of the manuscript. V. K. acknowledges financial assistance from U.G.C.

8 February 1982

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ANNOUNCEMENT

FOURTH INDIAN GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The Fourth Indian Geological Congress is scheduled to be held during 9-12 November, 1982 in the Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

Organisers have invited contributions on the different disciplines of geology.

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