A NEW SPECIES OF ASCOCHYTA ON LAGERSTROEMIA

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This note describes an Ascochyta species occurring in the family Lythraceae. The host genus Lagerstroemia is the first member of this family which has been found susceptible to any Ascochyta sp resulting in leaf spots, while the remaining three common and well-known plants (Lawsonia, Roiata and Woodforda) do not host any fungi of coelomycetes. The other two new fungi of coelomycetes have already been recorded1. The holotype material of this new fungus has been deposited in Herbarium cryptogame Indicae Orientalis, IARI, New Delhi having the following taxon.

Ascochyta lagerstroemiae sp nov

Leaf spots amphigenous, circular, yellowish brown with brown margin, 0.5–4 mm in diam., coalesce to form larger infected zones extending upto 30 mm in length and 15 mm in width. Pycnidia amphigenous, mostly hypophyllous, scattered, subglobose, 42–120 μm in diam., erumpent with a circular ostiole of 8–20 μm in diam. Texture thin, pale brown, pseudoparenchymatous, darker around the ostiole. Conidiogenous cells short, hyaline. Conidia oblong, broadly rounded apically, rarely curved, hyaline, guttulate, 1-septate, 4–7 x 1–1.5 μm (figures a–d).

On living leaves of Lagerstroemia indica L., Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Nov. 1983, D. Gupta; H.C.1 O. 32868 (Holotype).

Ascochyta lagerstroemiae sp nov

Maculae foliares amphigenae, rotundae, bruneae flavidae cum margine bruneo, 0.5–4 mm in diametro, coalescunt formare zonas grandioras infectas extendentes usque ad 30 mm in longitudinem atque 15 mm in latitudinem. Pycnidia amphigenae, plerumque

hypophylla, disseminata, subglobosa, 40–120 μm in diametro, erumpent, rotundo cum ostiolo de 8–20 μm in diametro. Textura tenuis, brunneo pallido, pseudoparenchymatica, obscuriora circa ostiolum. Conidiogenae cellae breves, hyalinae. Conidia oblongatae, late rotundatae apicaliter, hyalinae, raro curvatae, guttatae, 1-Septatae, 4–7 x 1–1.5 μm (figures a–d).

In foliis vivis de Lagerstroemia indicae L., Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Nov. 1983, D. Gupta, H.C.1 O. 32868 (Holotypus).

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1. Chowdhry, P. N., Durga-Gupta and B. Paddu.,
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