days. The colony growth of the fungus in all the plates was recorded at 2-day intervals; the production of sclerotia was also recorded (table 1).

The results showed variation in the growth potential of mycelia and sclerotia. Under the conditions specified above, sclerotia showed rapid growth by producing mycelia and large number of sclerotia also appeared subsequently. The growth activity of sclerotia under visible light was greater with higher sclerotial production as compared to the cultures under UV and darkness. In darkness, growth from sclerotia as well as mycelium was more or less equal. In light, however, growth from sclerotia was markedly higher than from mycelia. The growth of the fungus arising from the mycelial disc was almost uniform under all the conditions, with no sclerotial production. The higher growth activity of sclerotia is attributed not only to the in vivo factors but also to the stored substances present in them.

It is therefore concluded that R. solani is an efficient pathogen which can adapt and survive under varied field conditions through the production of sclerotia, whose density is regulated by the process of anastomosis between different mating types.

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1. Sumner, D. R. and Bell, D. K., Phytopathology, 1982, 72, 86.

TAKHTAJANIANTHUS DE, GEN. NOV.

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In 1875 E. Boissier and E. Blanche described a new genus of Compositae (Asteraceae) with the name Postia Boiss. and Blanche (in Hooker and Jackson1). But an year earlier, Fries2 erected the genus Postia Fr. for a number of poroid fungi with soft basidiocears, small pores and thin dissepiments. It was opined that taxonomically it is illogical and erroneous to accept the same generic name for Fungus and Angiosperm. Since it was published one year earlier, the Friesian name Postia Fr., has priority and therefore this generic name should be regarded as valid. Naturally, the generic name Postia Boiss. and Blanche proposed for 4 species of Compositae (in Hooker and Jackson1) becomes invalid and a new generic name has been given for Postia Boiss. and Blanche which is as follows:

Takhtajianianthus De, gen. nov. (the generic epithet celebrated after taxonomist Prof. Armen L. Takhtajan).


Typus: Postia lanuginosa Boiss., 1875.

The 4 species included under the genus Takhtajianianthus De, gen. nov. are as follows:

Takhtajianianthus bombycina (Boiss. and Haussk.) De, comb. nov. (Basionym: Postia bombycina Boiss. and Haussk., In: Boiss. Fl. Orient., iii, 183, 1875).

Takhtajianianthus lanuginosa (Boiss.) De, comb. nov. (Basionym: Postia lanuginosa Boiss., In: Boiss. Fl. Orient., iii, 182, 1875).

Takhtajianianthus microcephala (Boiss.) De, comb. nov. (Basionym: Postia microcephala Boiss., In: Boiss. Fl. Orient., iii, 183, 1875).

Takhtajianianthus puberula (Boiss. and Haussk.) De, comb. nov. (Basionym: Postia puberula Boiss. and Haussk., In: Boiss. Fl. Orient., iii, 183, 1875).

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