

A new species of *Sporotrichum* from Indian soils.

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With two Figs. in the text.

Only three species of *Sporotrichum* have been reported so far from the various soils of India. These are *Sporotrichum roseum* Link, *S. epigaeum* Brunard var. *terrestre* Daszew and *S. carthusioviride* Rai and Mukerji, reported by Thakur and Norris (1928), Saxena and Mehrotra (1952) and Rai and Mukerji (1962) respectively. In all, so far sixteen species of *Sporotrichum* have been described from soils of different parts of the world.

During the investigation of microorganisms from Dehradun oak forest soils, in connection with the studies of soil fungi of India, several new forms have been isolated. The present isolate differs from other described species in the size and shape of the conidia and also in the colour of the colony (Fig. 1).

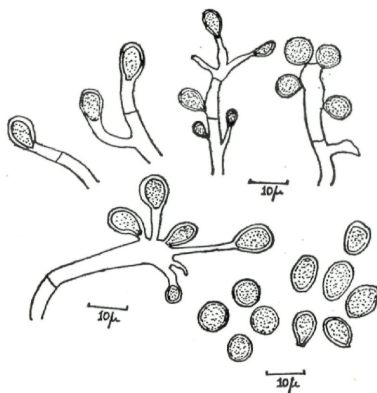


Figure 1: Conidiophores bearing conidia and their branching pattern.

Sporotrichum dehradunense sp. nov. Sarbhoy and Saxena.

Colonies on Czapek's agar pure white, broadly speaking, dusty or powdery, reverse colourless; hyphae creeping, irregularly branched, but never in whorls, 3,6—4,8 μ in diameter. Conidiophores freely branched, oppositely or irregularly, bearing conidia terminally on

the hyphae or on the branches, usually very numerous, mostly sessile, pointed towards attached ends, oval $7.2-7.8 \times 4.8-5.4 \mu$ and few spherical also $6.0-7.2 \mu$, appearing yellowish.

The isolate is deposited in the Botany Department, University of Allahabad, Allahabad as No. A-168.

Caespites in "Czapek's agar" bene evoluti, candidi, patentissimi, pulveracei, subtus achroi; hyphae repentes, irregulariter ramulosae nec verticillatae, $3.6-4.8 \mu$ crassae; conidiophora opposita vel irregulariter iterum iterumque ramosa, ramulis continuis vel uniseptatis, nunc brevissimis, nunc plus minusve, sed plerumque parum tantum elongatis; conidia in ramulis conidiophorum tenuioribus fere semper acrogena, in ramulis crassioribus interdum etiam pleurogena, numerosa, ovoidea, utrinque rotundata, vix vel postice tantum distincte attenuata, tunc plus minusve truncata, $7.2-7.8 \times 4.8-5.4 \mu$, raro globosa, $6-7.2 \mu$ diam., flavidula, plasmate granuloso farcta, episporio crassiusculo distincte conspicuo praedita.

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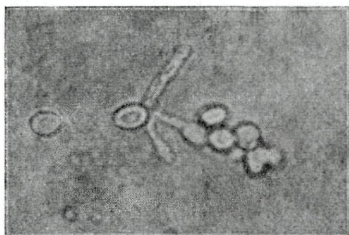


Figure 2. Photomicrograph showing the branching pattern and the conidia ($600 \times$).

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