

A note on an interesting isolate of *Thamnidium* from India

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With 1 Fig. in the text

Amongst the various phycomycetes which have figured prominently in the isolates from soil, dungs of animals and other debris the genus *Thamnidium* is the one that always catches the taxonomist's eye. The genus is characterised by various types of sporangio-phores that ultimately terminate after dichotomous branching into a conspicuous structure designated as sporangiola.

Although the present isolate was only once isolated during the course of investigation by R u g m i n i 1956, and only casually mentioned in the accompanying report but the present report is the first detailed investigation into the Morphology and Taxonomy of the isolate in question.

Thamnidium elegans Link ex Gray.

Colonies on SMA growing fast at 25° C, at first pale olive gray, later olive buff, reverse colonial buff (Pl. xxx); odor yeasty; sporangio-phores of three types, some large terminating into a sporangium, some small dichotomously branched and bearing sporangiola only, others large (length upto 990 μ) with a terminal sporangium and sporangiola borne on dichotomous branches arising from several points from sporangio-phore; sporangia at first white, later brown, spherical, wall incrustated, 45—140 μ in diam.; rapidly deliquescing, collar very small; columella globose to oval, hyaline, 25—66 \times 45—754 μ ; sporangiola globose or slightly flattened, light gray in colour, deciduous, wall hyaline breaking, lacking columella, 2—6 spored, 10.5—24 μ , occasionally as small as 7.7 μ , mostly 14 μ in diam.; sporangiospores from sporangia and sporangiola of the same shape and size, subglobose to ellipsoidal, smooth, hyaline or faintly yellow; zygospores not observed.

MX — 10 isolated from soil pH 7.5 of Rewa (M. P.). Culture deposited in the culture collection of Botany Department, University of Allahabad.

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s

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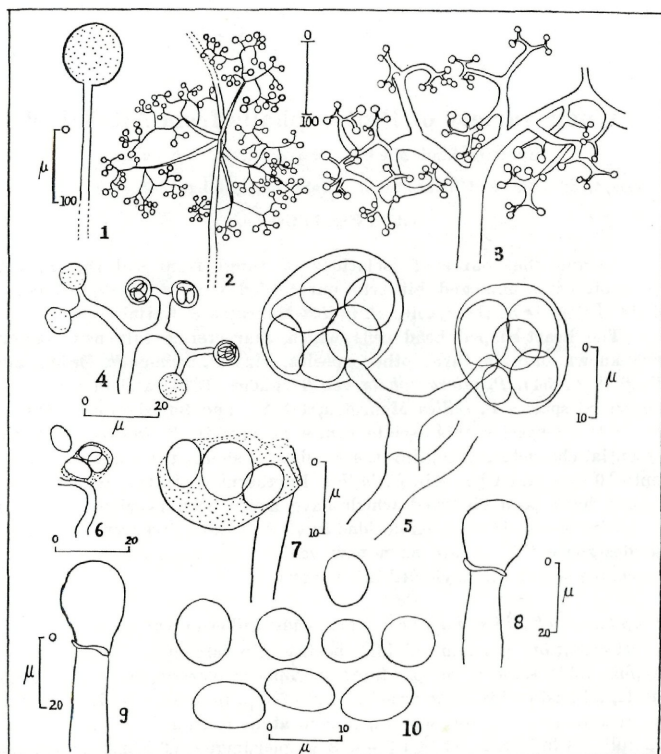


Fig. 1. *Thamnidium elegans* Link ex Gray. — 1. Apical part of a sporangiophore bearing sporangium. 2. Middle portion of the sporangiophore branched dichotomously and bearing sporangia. 3. Apical part of the sporangiophore branched dichotomously and bearing sporangia only. 4. Portion of dichotomous branching enlarged. 5. Sporangia enlarged. 6, 7. Bursting sporangia. 8, 9. Columellae. 10. Sporangiospores

References

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Artikel/Article: [A note on an interesting isolate of Thamnidium from India. 198-199](#)