

***Oidium braunii* sp. nov. from Coimbatore,
Tamil Nadu, India**

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During a course of mycological collection at Coimbatore, plants of *Nyctanthes arbortristis* L. (Oleaceae) were found infected with a powdery mildew. Initially, the infection spots were epiphyllous, small, circular and powdery. Later, the spots coalesced and covered the entire leaf surface. Several infected leaves turned yellow, followed by defoliation. Even from a distance, it was easy to detect the infected plants.

The fungus was observed in the conidial stage and belongs to the genus *Oidium* which was studied extensively by BOESEWINKEL (1979, 1980) and BRAUN (1980, 1982 a, 1982 b) who, however, reported no *Oidium* on *Nyctanthes*. BILGRAMI & al. (1979, 1981) have simply enlisted this fungus as *Oidium* sp. A critical study of the fungus revealed the features of this *Oidium* to be quite distinct, to justify its treatment as a new species.

***Oidium braunii* V. B. HOSAGOUDAR, sp. nov. — Fig. 1, A—C**

Appressoria lobata. Mycelium superficiale, repens, septatum, hyalinum, cellulae 3—5.5 μ m latae. Conidiophora erecta, cellulis brevibus 1—2 sequentibus, 50—90 \times 6.5—11 μ m; fundus pedis rectus vel curvatus vel flexuosus vel tortus. Conidia singulariter facta, ellipsoideo-ovoidea ad ellipsoideo-dolii-formia, 24—33 \times 13—18 μ m, tubum germinale breve terminaliter oriens. Ad folias *Nyctanthes arbortristidis*. India. Holotypus BSI/ISV/80378, VENKATA RAO, 28. III. 1984.

Appressoria lobed. — Mycelium superficial, creeping, septate, hyaline, cells 3—5 μ m wide. — Foot-cells of the Conidiophores erect, followed by 1—2 short cells, 50—90 \times 6.5—11 μ m; basal portion of the footcells straight to curved to flexuosus or twisted. — Conidia formed singly, ellipsoid-ovoid to ellipsoid-doliform, 24—33 \times 13—18 μ m, germ tube short, arising at an end.

Material. — On the living leaves of *Nyctanthes arbortristis* L. (Oleaceae), at Coimbatore on March 28, 1984. A. VENKATA RAO. Holotype deposited in Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore (MH), Tamil Nadu, India, under BSI/ISV/80378.

The species is named in honour of Dr. U. Braun whose contribution to the study of powdery mildews is notable.

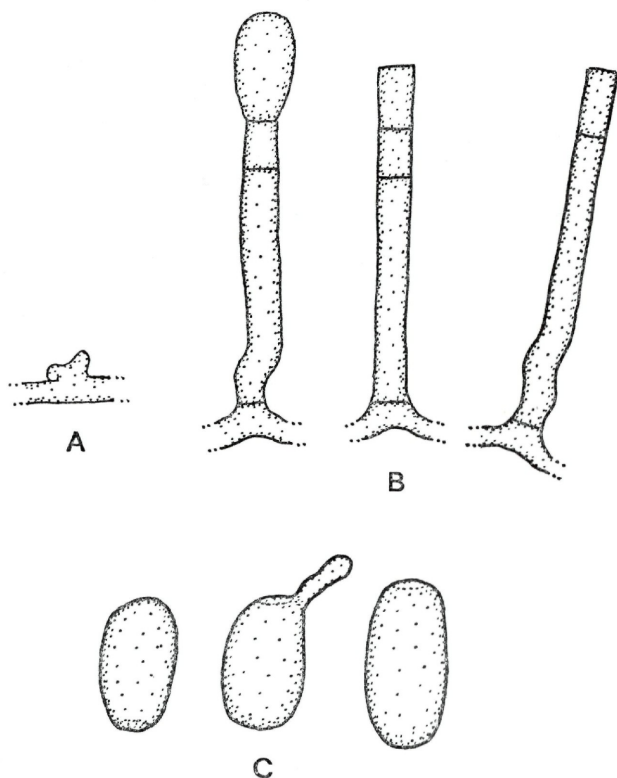


Fig. 1, A—C: *Oidium braunii* HOSAGODAR (type): A. Apressorium. — B. Conidiophores. — C. Conidia (ovoid primary conidium, conidium with germ tube, secondary conidium).

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