

*B. campestris* var. *brown toria* (Figs. 1-4). Moreover, the individual reticulations are deeper, somewhat elongated-polygon-shaped with narrower ridges in the former providing a clear-cut contrast with those of the latter that are shallower, more or less regularly polygonal and with broader ridges (Figs. 2, 4). Notably enough, the sunken floor of reticulations in *A. mexicana* is studded with numerous simple pittings<sup>1,4,5</sup> while numerous polygonal 'secondary nettings' comprise the floor of each 'primary netting' in *B. campestris* var. *brown toria*<sup>2,3</sup> (Figs. 2, 4). A prominent raphe ridge is noticeable in the seed of *A. mexicana* (developed from an anatropous ovule) while a radicle ridge is present in the seed of *B. campestris* var. *brown toria* (developed from a campylotropous ovule) (Figs. 1, 3). The pattern of reticulations over the raphe ridge is significantly different as compared to those covering the general surface of the seed (Fig. 1).

The aforesaid findings have provided distinct micromorphological data regarding the seed surface of the two species and may be of significant help in tackling the adulteration problem of commercial seed samples as well as powdered/manufactured products therefrom.

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### PROTOACHLYA PARADOXA COKER, A NEW RECORD FOR INDIAN AQUATIC FUNGI

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DURING the course of an investigation on aquatic fungi of Kumaun region in relation to fish infection, a number of diseased fishes have been collected, which were suffering from mycoses caused by the members of Saprolegniaceae. In the same collections, one adult individual of *Cyprinus carpio* var. *specularis* L. was found infected with the fungus *Protoachlya paradoxa* Coker.

The pathogen was isolated on boiled hempseed halves<sup>6</sup> in sterile pond water and pure bacteria free culture was made on the lines of Johnson<sup>1</sup> and Raper<sup>2</sup>. The isolate was identified as *Protoachlya paradoxa* Coker with the help of Coker's monograph<sup>3</sup> and confirmation has been done by the C.M.I., England. The culture has also been deposited in the herbarium at C.M.I. (IMI No. 255015).

*Protoachlya paradoxa* Coker is a new record for the Indian aquatic fungi. Vishniac and Nigrelli<sup>4</sup> have tested this fungus as parasite on the test fish *Xiphophorus maculatus* in an artificial inoculation experiment. But in our experiments the same fungus is found as the naturally occurring parasite of *Cyprinus carpio* var. *specularis*.

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### NEW RECORD OF ALTERNARIA ALTERNATA (FR.) KEISSLER ON STERCULIA VILLOSA ROXB.

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A LEAF SPOT disease of *Sterculia villosa* Roxb. due to *Alternaria alternata* (Fr.) Keissler was for the first time observed in India at the proposed Balphakram wild-life sanctuary of Garo Hills, Meghalaya, in July-September, 1980. Infections appeared as minute, circular and light brown spots in the centre or margins of which later coalesce forming large brown areas. Affected bases have concentric rings or 'shot holes'. Older leaves were more susceptible to infection as compared to younger ones.

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