
SHORT SCIENTIFIC NOTES

AN ADDITION TO INDIAN MUSHROOMS

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Coprinus kimurae Hongo et Aoki was collected from the paddy straw beds of *Volvariella volvacea*, a popular edible fungus cultivated in West Bengal. This fungus is treated as a competitor of *V. volvacea*. The frequent occurrence of *Coprinus* on paddy straw bed is a chronic problem to the growers. It has been noticed that the growth of this fungus on paddy straw beds usually reduces the production of *V. volvacea*¹. The occurrence of this fungus is being reported for the first time from India. The general characteristics of *C. kimurae* are given below.

Coprinus kimurae Hongo et Aoki, M.(1970)². Maruminohitoyotake, Nippon kinoko Xuhan (Serial No. 338).

Coprinoid habit, sporophores growing singly or scattered or in clumps, usually grows on paddy straws, centrally stipitate, white or greyish, hairy, fruiting body autodigesting. *Pileus* diameter 1.8-4.5 cm, white when young, grey with age and fuscous black³ after autodigestion; conical to campanulate when young but expanded when full grown, fragile, covered with hairs, easily comes out when touched, margin striate, splitting, reflexed, cuticle dry, peels easily, velvety. *Gills* entire, free, crowded, distinctly formed, pliable, 0.2-0.3 cm wide, dirty white and then black, stipe central, 2.0-10.0 cm long, hairy, hairs gradually disintegrate with age, hollow, 0.3-0.4 cm in diameter, tapering towards the apex, cartilaginous, persistent, white throughout. *Structure*: hymenophoral trama regular, gill trama consisting of densely compacted parallel hyphae, branched with round tip, 6.5-10.5 μm wide, with septa, pleurocystidis present, 19.8-32.5 μm long and 10.3-12.6 μm wide; pileal trama consisting of hyphae, 7.9-11.5 μm wide, loose, branched, septate. *Basidia* clavate, 19.5-25.5 μm \times 9.0-11.5 μm , tetra-sterigmatic, sterigmata 5.0-6.5 μm , quadrisporous. *Basidiospores* brown vinaceous, thick walled, smooth, porate, 9.00-12.5 \times 9.0-11.5 μm , spore print black.

The culture of the fungus deposited with I.A.R.I., New Delhi, vide Type Collection No. 2744 and Mushroom Herbarium, Calcutta University.

C. kimurae belongs to the family Coprinaceae of the order Agaricales⁴ (Singer, 1975).

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 2. Hongo and Aoki, M., *Maruminohitoyotake, Nippon kinoko Xuhan*, 1970 (Serial No. 338).
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 4. Singer, R., *Mushrooms and Truffles*, Leonard Hill, London, New York, 1975.
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CYLINDROCLADIUM SCOPARIUM MORG.
A NEW RECORD ON BLACK GRAM SEEDS

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BLACK gram (*Phaseolus mungo*) seeds were collected from Aatur, Tirunelveli District of Tamilnadu State. Standard Blotter Method (SBM) was used for detection of seed borne fungi. 200 seeds were incubated in petridishes (9.5 cm diameter) with 10 seeds for each petridish on three layers of moistened blotters. The seeds were incubated for 7 days at $29 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ with alternating cycles of light darkness. The seeds were examined for the presence of fungi. The compound microscope was also used, to confirm identification.

The following important fungi were found associated with the seeds of black gram: *Alternaria longissima* Deighton and Mac Garvie; *Colletotrichum truncatum* Andr and Moore; *Curvularia lunata* (Wakker) Boedijn; *Cylindrocladium scoparium* Morg; *Drechslera tetramera* (McKinney) Subram and Jain; *D. hawaiiensis* (Bagnicourt) Subram and Jain; *Fusarium moniliforme* Sheldon; *F. solani* (Mart) App et Wr. em. Snyder et Hansen; *Macrophomina phaseolina* (Maubi) Ashby; *Myrothecium roridum* Tode ex Fr and *Phoma* sp. *Cylindrocladium scoparium* is a new record on black gram seeds in India.

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ON THE OCCURRENCE OF A COLONIAL ASCIDIAN, *DIDEMNUM PSAMATHODES* (SLUITER, 1895) FROM INDIA

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THE present note deals with the colonial ascidian, *Didemnum psamathodes*. It is recorded for the first time in India at Tuticorin, Kanyakumari, Mandapam, Rameswaram, Krusadai Island and Shingle Island on the east coast and at Vizhinjam Harbour area on the west coast.

Leptoclinum maculatum Nott, 1892 *Hypugon skeati* Sollas, 1903 and Herdman, 1906 and *Leptoclinides africanus* Michaelsen, 1915 are some of the synonyms of this species.

The morphological characters of the species: Colony: thin, soft, encrusting and grey in colour—only a few spicules but abundant ovoid shaped faecal pellets in

the tunic. Zooid: height is less than 1 mm—branchial siphon with 6 lobes—4 rows of stigmata—7 stigmata per half row—presence of small lateral thoracic organs at the level of the third row of stigmata—long fixative appendage—long waist—stomach high in the abdomen, small with an angular shape—long and twisted intestine—single testis—around testis vas deferens is coiled in 7 or 8 turns—Ovary near the testis.

Larva: There are 3 long, slender adhesive discs separated by 4 pairs of papillae enlarged at their extremities.

This species is commonly seen attached to the underside of the stones and also to the weeds, iron rods, wood, etc. It has a wide distribution in all tropical shallow waters of the world.

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May 19, 1981.

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ASSOCIATION OF MICROBIOLOGISTS OF INDIA

Association of Microbiologists of India, Mysore Unit, in collaboration with Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, will be organizing a Summer School in Microbiology "Microbiological techniques in food industries". This will be a simple course of five days duration which may be conducted during May/June 1982 for the persons working in the food industries. The main idea of this Course is to provide training in food microbiology and sanitation. The broad areas to be covered in this course are:

(a) role and significance of micro-organisms in food material; (b) enumeration of micro-organisms in food material; (c) isolation and identification of coliforms and pathogenic organisms; (d) occurrence of microbial toxins in food.

For further details, please contact: Sri J. D. Patel, Secretary-cum-Treasurer, Association of Microbiologists of India, Microbiology and Fermentation Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore 570 013.