

Table 2 Nitrogenase activity and mycorrhizal colonization in *Rhizobium* and VA mycorrhiza inoculated *Cajanus cajan*

Treatments	Nitrogenase activity* ($\mu\text{mol. Ethyl./pl/hr}$)			Mycorrhizal colonization (infection percent)		
	Age of the plant in days			Age of the plant in days		
	25	35	60	25	35	60
M_0R_0	0.17a	1.02a	0.21a	12	25	46
M_0R	0.66b	1.59b	0.16a	11	27	45
MR_0	0.42c	1.43b	0.15a	39	63	91
MR	1.06d	5.24c	0.20a	42	65	89

* Those means within a column not sharing a common letter differ significantly ($P = 0.05$).

colonisation (60th day) brought about a sudden increase in the ratio of *Glomus* inoculated plants; probably due to the collapse of nodule sink. The fluctuation in the ratio, thus observed, emphasises the possibility for a competition between micro symbionts for the photosynthate translocated to the root system.

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LECYTHISPORA INDICA GEN ET SP NOV TO HYPHOMYCETES

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DURING a survey for Hyphomycetes an unusually distinct fungus was collected during September 1979 on horse dung from New Delhi. This fungus could not be accommodated in any described genus of Hyphomycetes; therefore it is being communicated through this paper as *Lecythispora* gen nov (*L. indica* Sp nov). The holotype material is kept at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, England.

Lecythispora gen nov (figures 1-8)

(Etym. Lecythis-like stoppered bottle; Spora-spore) Colonies effuse, hairy. Mycelium superficial, branched, septate, smooth, hyaline. Conidiophores hyaline, macronematous, mononematous, erect, aseptate, simple or denticulate at apex. Conidiogenous cell monoblastic, terminal, cylindrical. Conidiogenesis sympodial holoblastic. Conidia dry, solitary, acrogenous, lecythiform, secession rhexolytic.

Type species: *Lecythispora indica*

Lecythispora gen nov

Coloniae effusae, pilosae. Mycelium superficiale, ex hyphis ramosis, septatis, levibus, hyalinis compositum. Conidiophora hyalina, macronematosa, mononematosa, recta, aseptata, simplicia vel denticulata in apice. Cellulae conidiogenae monoblastici, terminale, cylindricae. Conidiogenae sympodiales holoblastici. Conidia sicca, solitaria, acrogena, lecythiformia, rhexolytica secedentia.

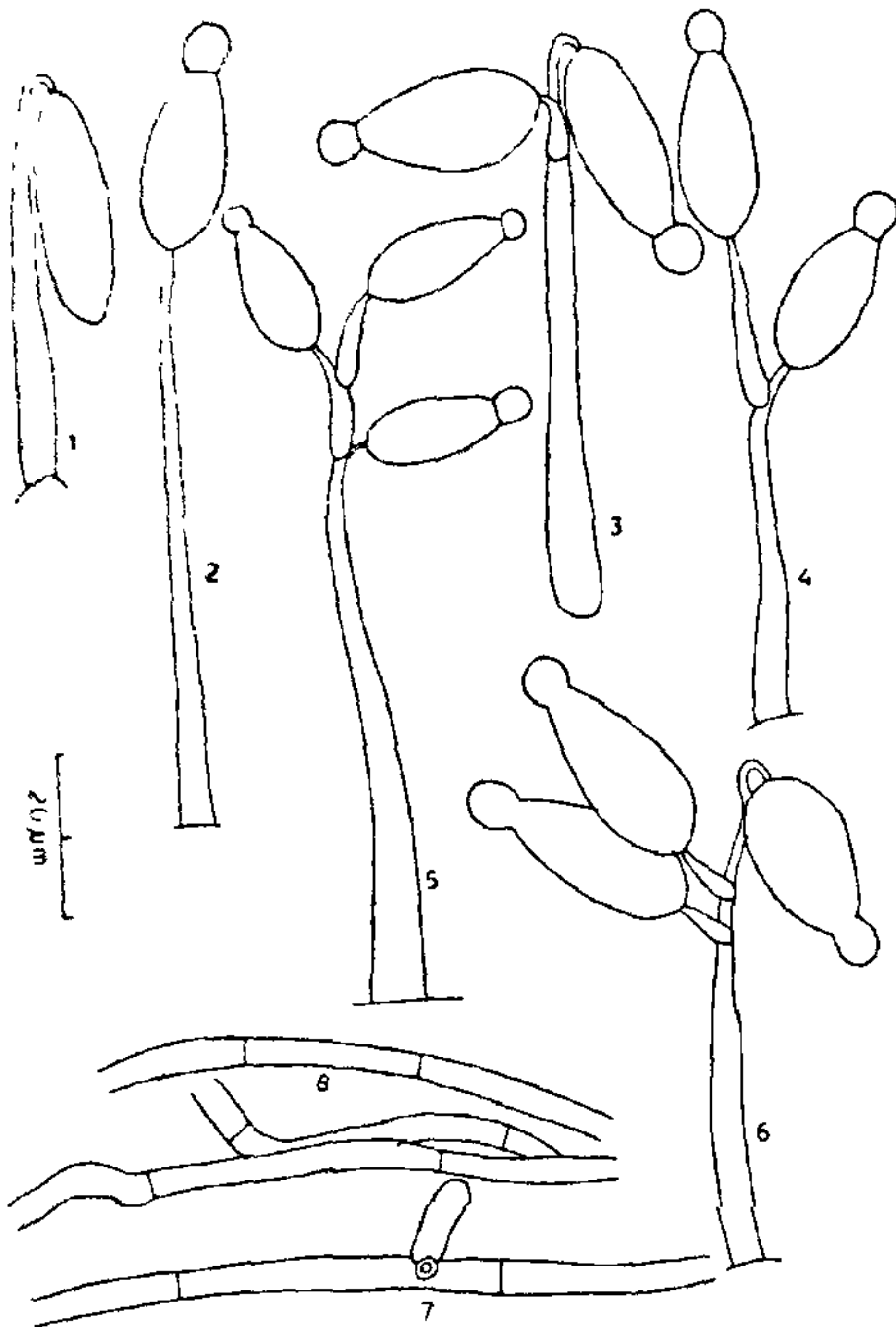
Species typica: *Lecythispora indica*

Lecythispora indica sp nov

Colonies effuse. Mycelium superficial. Hyphae septate, hyaline, sparingly branched 3-4.5 μm diam. Conidiophores macronematous, mononematous, hyaline, aseptate, erect 45-100 μm alta, 5-8 μm in fundo minuentes ad 2-3 μm in apice, aut non ramosa aut 1-3 ramos denticulata in apice 5-25 μm longos. Conidiogenae sympodiales holoblastici. Conidia sicca, solitaria, acrogena, 0-1 septatae, hyalina vel subhyalina, lecythiformia 18-30 \times 8-12 μm , rhexolytica secedentia.

Habitat: In Copro-equis, IARI, New Delhi, Indiae, Sept. 1979, P. N. Chowdhry, Ad positus CMI, Kew, England, IMI 287801 (Holotypus).

The new genus is comparable only with *Stylopage*¹ of family Zoopagaceae in which conidia-bearing small terminal protuberances with cytoplasm have only



Figures 1–8. *Lecythispora indica* gen et sp nov
 1. Conidiophore bearing conidium without terminal protuberance. 2. Simple conidiophore bearing lecythiform conidium, 3, 4. Conidiophores bearing two denticles and bearing conidia, 5, 6. Conidiophores bearing three denticles. 7. Septate mycelium showing emergence of conidiophore and 8. Septate mycelium of the fungus.

been reported in *S. rhyncospora*² and *S. anomala*³. These protuberances are later delimited. Also the conidia in these two species are borne on simple or branched conidiophores. But the new genus differs with the above species in having septate mycelium, denticulate conidiophores and persistent protuberance of the conidium which is filled with the cytoplasm.

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A NEW FRUIT ROT OF GUAVA CAUSED BY *SCLEROTIUM ROLFSII*

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DURING the surveys undertaken for storage diseases of fruits at various local markets, a new disease of guava was noticed. The incidence of the disease varied from 1–2% during storage. The disease was also noticed occasionally in the field on low hanging fruits before harvest.

Isolations made from the infected fruits collected from the market and field uniformly yielded *Sclerotium rolfsii*. Pathogenicity tests were conducted on ripe and unripe fruits with and without injury. Infection appeared within 48 hr followed by rotting within 6 to 8 days after inoculation. The infected fruits were entirely covered with white fluffy mycelium which on further incubation produced round to oval mustard-like sclerotia. Infected fruits were kept under laboratory conditions and the viability of the sclerotia was tested periodically by inoculating the healthy fruits of guava. It was observed that sclerotia were viable and caused infection even after one year. Infection occurred without any injury and the fan-shaped mycelium spreads very fast covering the entire surface of the fruit within a week. In a heap, infection spreads very fast from fruit to fruit during storage. After a week brown mustard shaped sclerotia characteristic of the species *S. rolfsii* developed.

S. rolfsii which is primarily a soil-borne pathogen has also earlier been reported to be associated with the rotting of vegetables¹ and fruits^{2,3} in storage. However, review of literature indicated no previous record of this fungus on guava. It is interesting to note that Sumbali and Malhotra⁴ found guava to be a resistant host to *S. rolfsii* isolated from pears which is quite contrary to our results.