

***Bispora aeglei* sp. nov. - a new Follicolous Hyphomycete from India**

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Descriptions and illustrations are provided for one hitherto undescribed species of the form genus *Bispora sorda*, a follicolous hyphomycete causing leaf spot disease. This is *B. aeglei* occurring on living leaves of *Aegle marmelos* L. in Madhya Pradesh.

Key words : *Aegle marmelos*, *Bispora*, Hyphomycete

During a survey, the authors have observed a leaf spot disease on *Aegle marmelos* L. belonging to Family Rutaceae. The causal organism has been identified as a species of *Bispora* L. Corda has described this genus for the first time with *B. moniloides* as its type species. Sarbhoy *et al.*, (1977) are the first to report this genus as *B. antennata* (Pers ex Pers) from India. *B. antennata* Pers, ex Pers, *B. betulina*, *B. catenula* (Leveille, 1845), *B. donkii* (Subramanian and Rao, 1976), *B. moniloides* Corda (Munjal and Kapoor, 1969), *B. verruculosa* (Sharma, 1978), *B. muchlenbeckiae* (Chiplonkar, 1969), *B. apocynacesporum* (Shrivastava *et al.*, 2003) are few species of *Bispora* reported from India. The genus is characterized by punctiform or effuse, usually fuscous or black colonies. Setae and hypopodia absent. Conidiophores usually inconspicuous and short on natural substrates, often longer in culture. Straight or flexuous, unbranched or rarely branched, pale brown or brown, smooth. Conidia catenate, acrogenous, simple, doliiform or cylindrical rounded at the ends, brown or dark brown, usually 1-septate with a dark band at the septum smooth.

TAXONOMY

***Bispora aeglei* sp. nov. Dubey and Pandey (Fig. 1)**

Coloniae effusum, xylinum, nigra, brunni. *Mycelium* mergo, ramosus septatus, *Conidiophorii* brevis in naturalis substratum, brevis ad per longus in cultura, 5-44 x 2.2-4.4 μ m; conidicus cella

cylindricus ad clavafiguro; *conidii* catenatum, acrogenus, simplex, pallidus brunneus ad medius brunneus, doliiformis an cylindricus, 0-2 septatus, raro 2 septatus, parce colligo ad septa, 13.2-27.6 x 6.6-8.8 μ m, secundarius conidiophorii frequenter productum apo apex cella ex catenatum conidii; secundarius conidiophorii hyalo, ad pallidus brunneus, 11-22 μ m ad produco catena ex secundarius conidii.

Colonies effuse, cottony, blackish brown; *Mycelium* immersed, branched septate; *Conidiophores* short on natural substrate short to very long in culture, 5-44 x 2.2-4.4 μ m; conidiogenous cell cylindrical to club shaped; *Conidia* catenate, acrogenous, simple, pale brown to mid brown, doliiform or cylindrical, 0-2 septate rarely 2 septate., slightly constricted at the septa, 13.2-27.6 x 6.6-8.8 μ m, secondly conidiophores are often produced from the apical cell of catenate conidia; secondary conidiophores hyaline to pale brown, 11-22 μ m and produce a chain of secondary conidia.

Host examined : On infected leaves of *Aegle marmelos* L. (Rutaceae) Madhav National Park, Shivpuri; August 2005, HClO No. 48109 (Holotype), HDBJ # 198 (Isotype), FGCC # 204, Leg R. Dubey, Species epithet was given after the name of the host plant.

The present species when compared with earlier described species *B. antennata*, *B. catenula*, *B. donkii*, *B. moniloides*, *B. verruculosa*, *B. muchlenbeckiae*, and *B. apocynacesporum* showed

Table 1 : Comparative account of *Bispora aeglei* sp. nov. with related species

Fungal Characteristic	<i>B. antennata</i>	<i>B. catenula</i>	<i>B. betulina</i>	<i>B. aeglei</i> sp. nov.
Colonies	Effuse, black	Hypophyllous, black	Punctiform to effuse fuscous	Effuse, brownish black
Conidiophores	Conidiophores pale brown, 5-30 μ m long 2-5 μ m thick	Conidiophores very short pale olive brown	Conidiophores on natural substrate 5-15 x 3-4 μ m much longer in culture	Conidiophores very short on natural substrate, much longer in culture, 5-44x2.2-4.4 μ m
Secondary conidiophores	Not seen	Not seen	Not seen	Secondary conidiophore produced, hyaline to pale brown, 11-22 x 2.2-3.3 μ m
Conidia	Conidia brown or dark brown almost black band at the septum 13-20 (17) x 7-8 (7.1) μ m	Conidia in long simple or branched chains, fusiform to limoniform tapered at each end, 1 septate, pale to mid olivaceous brown 12-18x5-7 μ m	Conidia occasionally 2 septate, brown or dark brown with very dark band or bands 9-14(11)x4-5(4.4) μ m	Conidia simple, acrogenous fusiform or doliform or ellip-soidal, apical cell apiculate 0-2 septate, bands not very dark, 13.2-27.6x6.6-8.8 μ m.

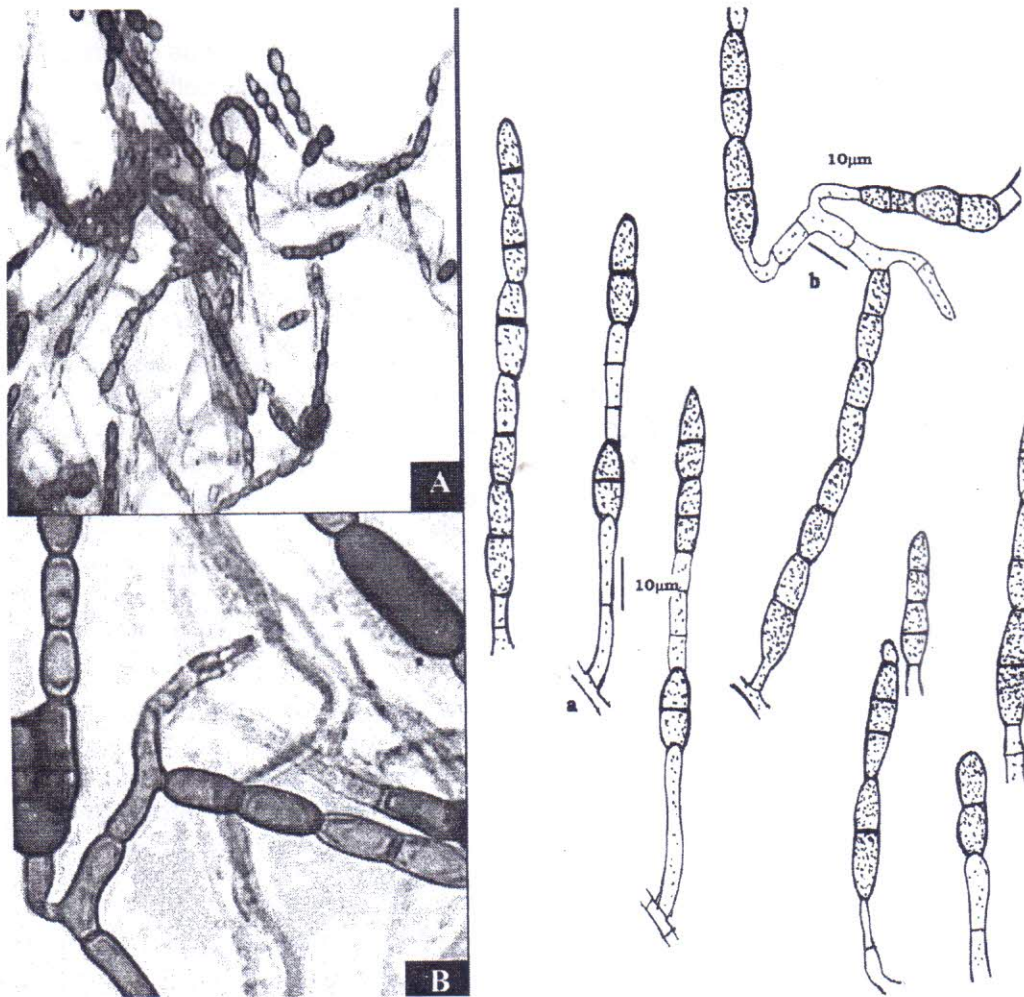


Fig. 1 : *Bispora aeglei* sp. nov. : A. Conidia & Conidiophore (X100); B. Branched secondary Conidiophore (x400). C. Camera Lucida drawing (a. conidiophore b. secondary conidiophore e. conidia)

marked differences in various taxonomic characters. It is evident from the Table 1 that the present collection is different from existing species in production of secondary conidiophores and secondary conidia. Therefore, it is concluded that proposed species could't be conspecific to any one and deserves placement as a new species. So here it is described as a new taxon at species level namely *Bispora aeglei* sp. nov. It's a new host record for the country (Bilgrami *et al.*, 1979, 1981, 1991; Jamaluddin *et al.*, 2004) and a new taxon at species level.

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