

HOST-RANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF *DAEDALEA FLAVIDA* LÉV.

Daedalea flavida LéV. is one of the common wood-rotting tropical polypores in India that attack our structural and standing timbers. Its large, conspicuous, applanate and corky brackets with characteristic labyrinthiform pore-mouths appear in great abundance on logs, posts and dead branches of forest trees during wet months of the year. The host list that follows has been compiled from the available reports of Banerjee (1947). "The list of common names of Indian Plant Diseases" published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (1950) and also from the list of collections in the "Polyporaceae Herbarium" of Dr. S. R. Bose at R. G. Kar Medical College, Calcutta. This list contains all the host-species so far known to the authors and cannot be claimed to be complete in itself, pending extensive collections covering wide areas of India and abroad. The names of the hosts are given below.

Acer caesium Wall., *Anogeissus latifolia* Wall., *Acacia arabica* Willd., *Alnus nepalensis* D. Don., *Areca catechu* L., *Bambusa* sp., *Borassus flabellifer* L., *Bombax malabaricum* DC., *Cocos nucifera* L., *Casuarina equisetifolia* L., *Dalbergia sisso* Roxb., *Excoecaria agalocha* L., *Ficus bengalensis* L., *Ficus religiosa* L., *Hymenodictyon excelsum* Wall., *Heritiera minor* Roxb., *Lagerstroemia lanceolata* Wall., *Mangifera indica* L., *Melaleuca leucadendron* L., *Phoenix sylvestris* Roxb., *Shorea robusta* Gaertn. f., *Suidenia mahagoni* L., *Sonneratia apetala* Ham., *Terminalia paniculata* W. and A., *T. tomentosa* W. and A., *T. bellerica* Roxb., *Tectona grandis* L., *Tamarindus indica* L., *Tetrameles nudiflora* R. Br.

To this list should be added *Ficus infectoria* Roxb., *Grewia asiatica* L., *Mimusops elengi* L. and *Terminalia catappa* L., which have been recorded by the writers during field-collections.

From the above list it is evident that *Daedalea flavida* LéV. mostly grows on a wide range of hard wood species. It also occurs on a number of monocotyledons but no coniferous host has yet been recorded. The wide range of host-wood species includes some of the valuable timber yielding plants and others are of various economic importance.

So far very little is known about the geographical distribution of *Daedalea flavida*. Its occurrence in Australia, Borneo, Java, Sumatra and India (Sacc., 1888; Butler and Bisby, 1931) and also in East Pakistan, Burma, Andaman Islands, Malaya and the Philippines* indicates its distribution in the tropics. It has not yet been recorded from the temperate regions of the world. It occurs throughout West Bengal from the Sunderbans in the south to Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts in the north. In other

* From the records in the 'Polyporaceae Herbarium' of Dr. S. R. Bose

parts of India its distribution is probably wider but the records appear to be very meagre. As the records go, it has, so far been collected from

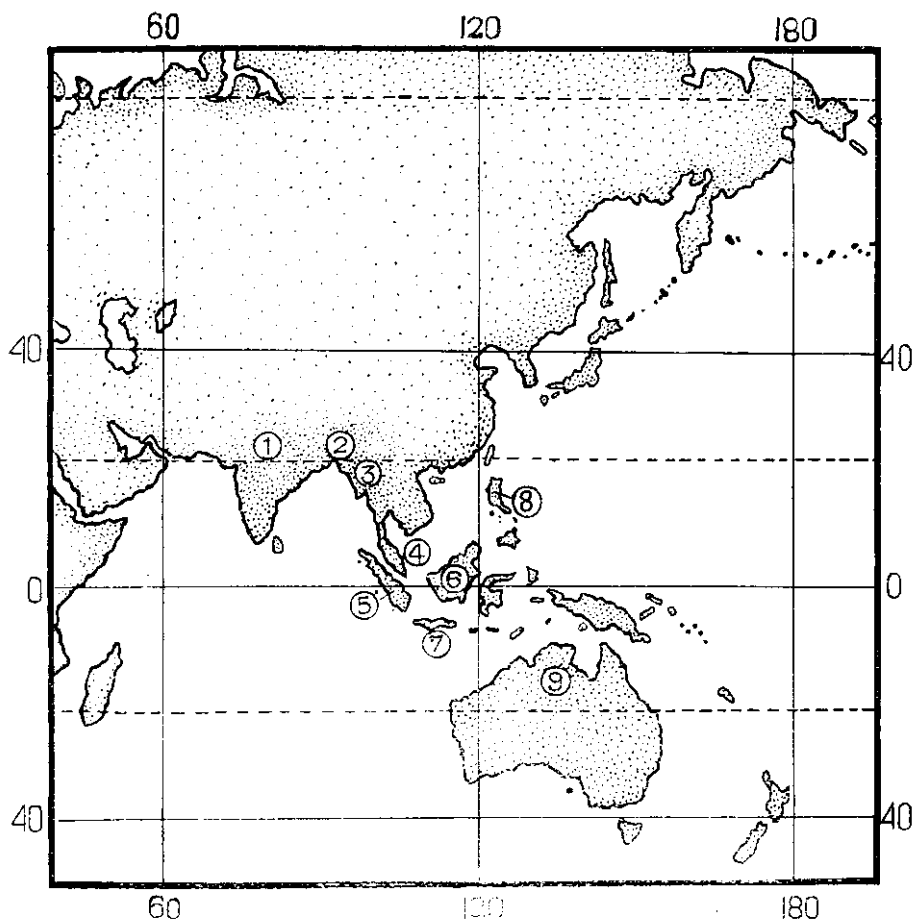


Fig. 1. Map showing distribution of *Daedalea flavida*

- 1, India ; 2, East Pakistan ; 3, Burma ; 4, Malay ; 5, Sumatra ; 6, Borneo ;
7, Java ; 8, The Philippines and 9, Australia.

Tripura, Assam, Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bombay and Madras only (Fig. 1).

Department of Botany,
University College of Science,
35, Ballygunge Circular Road,
Calcutta-19
December 8, 1957.

SACHINDRANATH BANERJEE
KANAK RANJAN SAMADDER

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