

## CUCURBITARIA ALBIZZAE A NEW ASCOMYCETES FROM UDGIR. (MARATHAWADA)

\* Vinay S. Nagpurne \*\* J.M. Patwari \*\* R. K. Narkhede

The since during the last few years mycology, a branch of Botany has been neglected and no studies have been extensively done on this branch in Marathwada region, therefore the work was under taken to investigate Ascomycetes fungi from Udgir region.

The Ascomycetes is largest group of fungi which are highly diverse and versatile organisms adopted to all kinds of environment.

In the present paper the genus *Cucurbitaria albizae* sp nov. recorded on *Albizia lebeck* Benth on critical morphological examination the present collection differs from the species described earlier. Hence, *cucurbitaria albizae* has been described a new to science.

**Key Words:** Taxonomy, Ascomycetes, Sphaerials, Phaeodictyae, Cucurbitaria.

### INTRODUCTION

The genus *Cucurbitaria* is represented by following species *Cucurbitaria berberidis* (pers), Gray ex Grev. (1821), as the type species. Saccardo's *Sylloge Fungorum* (1882-1931). has included 109 species. Ainsworth (1961) recorded only 20 species from the world. Recently Mirza (1968) has studied it extensively and divided it in to 4 groups on the basis of stoma characters.

How ever the genus remained unrepresented in the Indian flora until Sydow and Butler (1911) reported *Cucurbitaria agaves* Syd. and Butl. on *Agave* sps from U.P. Later on Tilak and Kale (1970) described *Cucurbitaria indica* on dead stem of *Zizyphus jujuba* Lam. Recently Ramchandra Rao. (1971) reported *Cucurbitaria grewiae* on *Grewia tiliifolia* vahl. and U. K. Talde (1970-71) *Cucurbitaria zizyphii* sp. nov. on dead stem of *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lam. form. Maharashtra.

The genus is characterised by fruting bodies single or in groups, light to dark brown globose to turbinate or almost. Flask-shaped. Hypostroma subiculate or pseudoparenchymatus in texture, purely of fungal tissue very well developed or reduced to a plate below the fruiting bodies. Asci. bitunicate, cylindrical to rarely sub-clavate, arising from hymenium at different levels, 2-8 spored. Ascospores. almost hyaline to dark-olive brown ellipsoidal to broadly fusiform with obtuse to sub acute ends transverse septa 3-9, rarely more longitudinal septa 1-3, rarely upto 4, continuous or discontinuous, saprophytic. **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The collection of infected plant material was done and identification of host was carefully recorded. In the laboratory, the hand sections of the infected plant material was carefully taken the slides were prepared by using Lactophenol as mounting medium and cotton blue as a stain. Then the slides were sealed. These slides were carefully observed under the calibrated research microscope. The measurement of Pseudothecia, Asci, and Ascospores was taken. The identification of the genus was done with the help of a book "Genera of Fungi" by Clements & Shear.

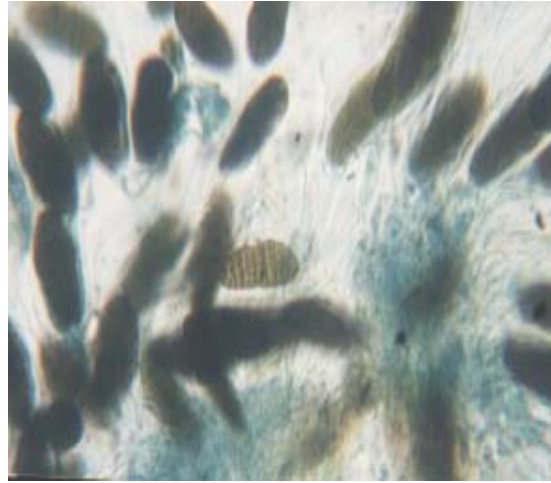
### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The genus characterised by pseudothecia separate to gregarious, widely erumpent later on superficial base weakly developed, black; subglobose to pyriform. Measuring from  $499.3\mu - 502\mu \times 480\mu - 540\mu$  papillate, papilla slightly on the lateral side. Asci few 8 spored, shortly stipitate clavate to saccate, bitunicate. measuring from  $149.9\mu - 168.2\mu \times 16 - 30\mu$ . Ascospores initially sub-hyaline, later turning yellow or gloden - brown, fusoid, muriform transversely as well as vertically multiseptate terminal cell. It's measuring form  $33.32\mu - 40.2\mu \times 12-24\mu$ . Irregularly biseriolate to multiseriate.

\* Dept. of Botany, Maharashtra Udaygiri Mahavidyala, Udgir, Dist. Latur (M.S.)

\*\* Dept. of Environmental Sci., Maharashtra Udaygiri Mahavidyala Udgir Dist Latur (M.S.)

\*\*\* Dept. of Environmental Sci., Maharashtra Udaygiri Mahavidyala Udgir Dist Latur (M.S.)



**REFERENCES**

Anisworth, G.C. & Bisby, G.R.: (1971): Dictionary of Fungi; M.I. Kew, Surry.  
Ainsworth, G.C. : (1971): The Fungi - volume - II  
Clements, F.E. and Shear, C.L. :(1931) : The Genera of Fungi, Hafner pub. co ; New York.  
Shear, C.L. : (1929): The problem of a Natural classification of the Ascomycetes proc. plant. SC. Thaea, New York - 2 : 1618 - 1626.  
Mundkar, B.B.:(1938): Fungi of India supplement I-ICAR. Sc. monograph : 12-54  
Sydow & Butler : (1911) ; Ann. Mycol 9:372-421.  
Saccardo, P.A. : (1882) : Sylloge Fungorum Vol - I-XII.  
Ramchandra Rao :(1965) : Taxonomic studies M. some folicolous and woody, sporophytic fungi. from Marathwada Ph.D. Thesis Dr. B.A. M. University, Aurangabad.  
Kale, S. B. :(1968) : Studies in some saporophytic Ascomycetes Genera Marathwada Ph.D. Thesis Dr. B.A.M. University, Aurangabad. f r o m  
Tilak, S.T. :(1966) : Contribution to our knowledge of Ascomycetes of India - 4, Mycopath. Mycol. appl. 28 : 86 - 89.  
Talde U.K. : (1974) : Studies Taxonomy and Discharged spores of some Ascomycetes, Ph. D. Thesis. Dr. B.A. M. University ; Aurangabad.