

STUDIES ON FOLIICOLOUS FUNGI – XIV TWO NEW RECORDS FROM INDIA

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Asterina hakgalensis

Hansf., Proc. Linn. Soc. London 158: 45, 1947.

(Fig. 1)

Materials examined

25.iv.2002, Sylvan Valley Hill, Munnar, Idukki, Kerala, India, on leaves of *Rhododendron arboreum* J.E. Smith subsp. *nilagiricum* (Zenk.) Tagg. (Ericaceae), coll. S. Shiburaj, HClO 44554, TBGT 839.

Diagnostic features

Colonies epiphyllous, dense, crustose, orbicular, up to 3mm in diameter, rarely confluent. Hyphae substraight to crooked, branching alternate to irregular at acute angles, loosely to closely reticulate, cells 14-20 x 4-5µm. Appressoria moderate to sparse, mostly present in the peripheral hyphae, globose, mammiform, broad based, entire, 6-7µm high and 7-9µm broad. Thyriothechia scattered to grouped, discrete to often connate, orbicular, up to 215µm in diameter, margin fringed, fringed hyphae join with the fringed hyphae of the other thyriothechia, carbonaceous black and stellately or irregularly splitted at the centre, radiating cells visible only towards the margin of the thyriothechia; asci few to many, ovate to globose, octosporous, 30-35µm in diameter; ascospores conglobate, oblong, brown, 1-septate, slightly constricted at the septum, 20-23 x 10-12µm, wall smooth.

Remarks

This species was known on *Rhododendron arboreum* var. *arboreum* from Sri Lanka (Hansford, 1947) and is reported here for the first time from India on a hitherto unrecorded endemic host plant (Bilgrami *et al.*, 1991). Further, this fungus was known only by the type collection.

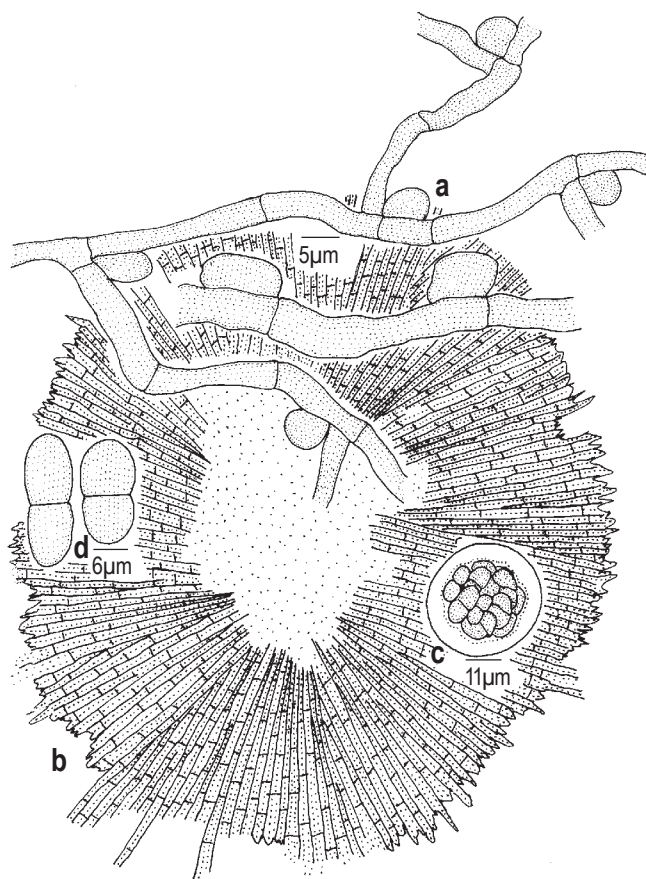


Figure 1. *Asterina hakgalensis* Hansf.
a - Appressorium; b - thyriothecium; c - ascus; d - ascospores

Sarcinella manilensis (Sacc.)

Kranz, Sydowia 20: 211-217, 1968.

(Fig. 2)

Materials examined

20.xii.2001, on leaves of *Flacourtia* sp. (Flacourtiaceae), Kannimala Estate, Munnar, Idukki, Kerala, coll. S. Shiburaj, HClO 44408, TBGT 586.

Diagnostic features

Colonies hypophyllous, dense, velvety, up to 1mm in diameter, often confluent. Hyphae straight to flexuous, branching irregular at acute angles, loosely reticulate, cells 19-24 x 4-5µm. Appressoria mostly opposite, often alternate, solitary and unilateral, globose, mammiform, entire, 6-8 x 6-7µm. Conidiophores borne lateral to the hyphae, simple, straight, entire to 1-2-septate, rarely bulbous at the base, 14-26 x 4-6.5µm, sometimes conidia borne on the tip of the hyphae. Conidia

numerous, carbonaceous black, sarciniform, 2-10-celled, constricted at the septa, 19-30 x 16-24 μ m.

Remarks

This is the only species known on the members of the family Flacourtiaceae from Philippines and is reported here for the first time from India (Bilgrami *et al.*, 1991; Hosagoudar & Abraham, 2000; Kranz, 1968).

Acknowledgements

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References

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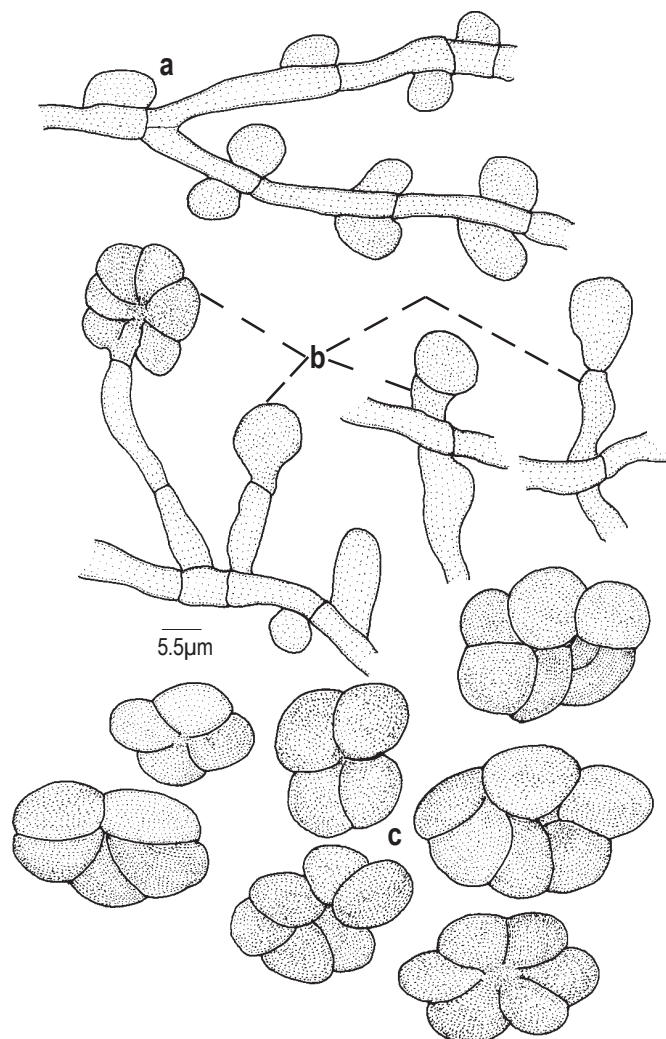


Figure 2. *Sarcinella manilensis* (Sacc.) Kranz
 a - Appressorium; b - developmental stages in conidium and conidiophore; c - conidia