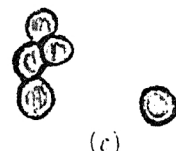


(1931); *The Fungi of Bombay* (1935). The causal agent, an *Aspergillus* sp. in spite of



Storage-Rot of Onions.

IN 1932 the attention of the senior writer was attracted towards this serious disease, which caused a waste of more than half to his onion-store. Although exceedingly common, no mention about it is found in Butler's *Fungi and Disease in Plants* (1918), *The List of Specimens in the Mycological Herbarium, Pusa* (1921), *The Fungi of India, Calcutta*



Baroda White Onions: (a) healthy, (b) diseased, (c) spores of the malady through oil immersion.

its existence in the soil, has never been found to be parasitic on the living plant. It attacks only the mature bulbs. Observations taken on different modes of storage showed the decay in (1) heaps 47.5%, (2) one layer spread on rice straw 14.6%, (3) store in well-ventilated hanging baskets 15%, and lastly (4) four to five onions woven together by their leaves and hung on a string 15%. Isolated cultures of the organism showed best growth at 34°-35° C. in the multiple incubator.

Walker and Murphy¹ have described an identical rot on onions and garlies imported in the States from Italy. *Botrytis Allii*, Munn. has been long known as Neck Rot of onions both in America and Europe and is seen to attack the inflorescence. The Indian organism seems to differ specifically from the *Aspergillus* described from America. Further observations as to the mode of attack of the organism, its physiology and its response to different methods of storage and chemical treatments are continued.

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¹ *Phytopathology*, March 1934.