

monwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, Surrey, England. This species of *Epicoccum* has earlier been recorded on maize (Ellis, 1956)¹ and *Ginkgo biloba* (Neely, 1959)² in U.S.A. Cross-inoculations were successful only on the fruits of *Prunus persica* Stokes and *Cucumis melo* L. while it failed to infect *Pyrus malus*, *Pyrus communis* L., *Trichosanthes dioica* Roxb. and *Cucumis sativus* L.

A culture has been deposited at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, Surrey, England (C.M.I. No. 95017), and also at the Plant Pathological Laboratory of the Botany Department, Allahabad University.

Our grateful thanks are due to Dr. J. C. F. Hopkins of C.M.I., Kew, Surrey, England, for confirming the identity of the fungus.

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EPICOCCUM NIGRUM LINK ON STORED FRUITS OF ZIZYPHUS JUJUBA LAMK

DURING December 1962, a storage rot disease of *Zizyphus jujuba* (Vern. Ber) was observed in the local markets. The infected fruits had chocolate-grey to dull-black spots. Isolations from diseased areas gave a species of *Epicoccum*. Pathogenicity was tested both by injury and contact methods. Since the fungus has not been recorded on this host earlier a brief account of symptoms and morphology of the organism has been recorded here.

The disease starts as small light-brown spots with a water-soaked appearance. These spots gradually enlarge in size and their colour changes to dark brown. Some times spots coalesce to form bigger spots and they become chocolate-grey to dull black with black margin. These spots remain quite distinct from the healthy portion of the fruits. A section of the diseased fruit shows that the fungus causes a soft rot of the fleshy tissue.

The fungus grows well on Asthana and Hawker's Medium 'A' at 25° C. (± 2° C.). In culture the mycelial colony is brownish-yellow in colour. Sporodochia are scattered and hemispherical in shape. Conidiophores are club-shaped, brown in colour, 4.5-7.0 × 12.0-14.3 μ in size. Conidia are spherical, 20.4 to 25.0 μ wide, brown in colour, borne singly at the tip of conidiophores. Conidial surface is verruculose.

On the basis of the above morphological characters the organism is specified as *Epicoccum nigrum* Link and it has been confirmed by Com-

1. Ellis, J. J., *Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.*, 1956, **63**, 307.
2. Neely, D., *Plant Dis. Repr.*, 1959 **43**(4), 498.