

monwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, Surrey, England. This species of *Epicoccum* has earlier been recorded on maize (Ellis, 1956)<sup>1</sup> and *Ginkgo biloba* (Neely, 1959)<sup>2</sup> 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.

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Allahabad, July 23, 1964.

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

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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. ( $\pm 2^{\circ}$  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,  $4.5-7.0 \times 12.0-14.3 \mu$  in size. Conidia are spherical, 20.4 to  $25.0 \mu$  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-