SOME STORAGE DISEASES OF FRUITS

During the survey of storage diseases of fruits and vegetables, undertaken by the authors since 1962, a number of diseases were observed, of which many were previously not described from India. The present note describes three such diseases:

1. *Anthracnose* of *Averrhoa carambola* L.—In the initial stages light brown shallow pits appear on the ribbed margin of the fruits. Later they enlarge and many of them coalesce. Subsequently, salmon coloured masses of spores oozing from the acervuli make their appearance on such lesions.

The disease is caused by *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* Penz. Pathogenicity test indicated that every fruit got infected when the fungus was inoculated after inflicting even slightest injury to the fruits, but only 30% infection was observed on unwounded fruits.

2. *Aspergillus* Rot of *Spondias mombin* Wild.—Initially the disease appears as water-soaked lesion which later becomes dull light brown in colour. It gradually enlarges and gets depressed. In advanced stages black conidal heads appear on the infected tissue.

The disease is incited by *Aspergillus niger* van Tiegham. Injury has been found prerequisite for initiation and development of the infection.

3. *Scab* of *Pisum sativum* L.—Scab like spots appear on the surface of the pods, which are usually dark brown or black, irregular in shape and slightly raised. Inside wall beneath the scab lesions frequently shows white felty or hair-like proliferations.

Scab is brought about by *Cladosporium sphaerospermum* Penzig. The fungus on inoculation to pea pods produced typical symptoms characteristics of scab. A similar type of scab is, however, known to be incited by *C. pisiolum* Snyderl in the United States of America.

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Department of Botany, M. P. Srivastava,*
University of Allahabad, R. N. Tandon.
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* Present address: Assistant Plant Pathologist (Rice), Punjab Agricultural University, Kapurthala (Punjab).