

Symptoms.—In the beginning small *chartura* black² lesions are produced by the pathogen. They are circular and water soaked. Subsequently they enlarge from the point of infection, become darker and develop black-coloured spore masses of the fungus. The junction between the diseased and healthy tissue remains clearly defined (Fig. 1). The

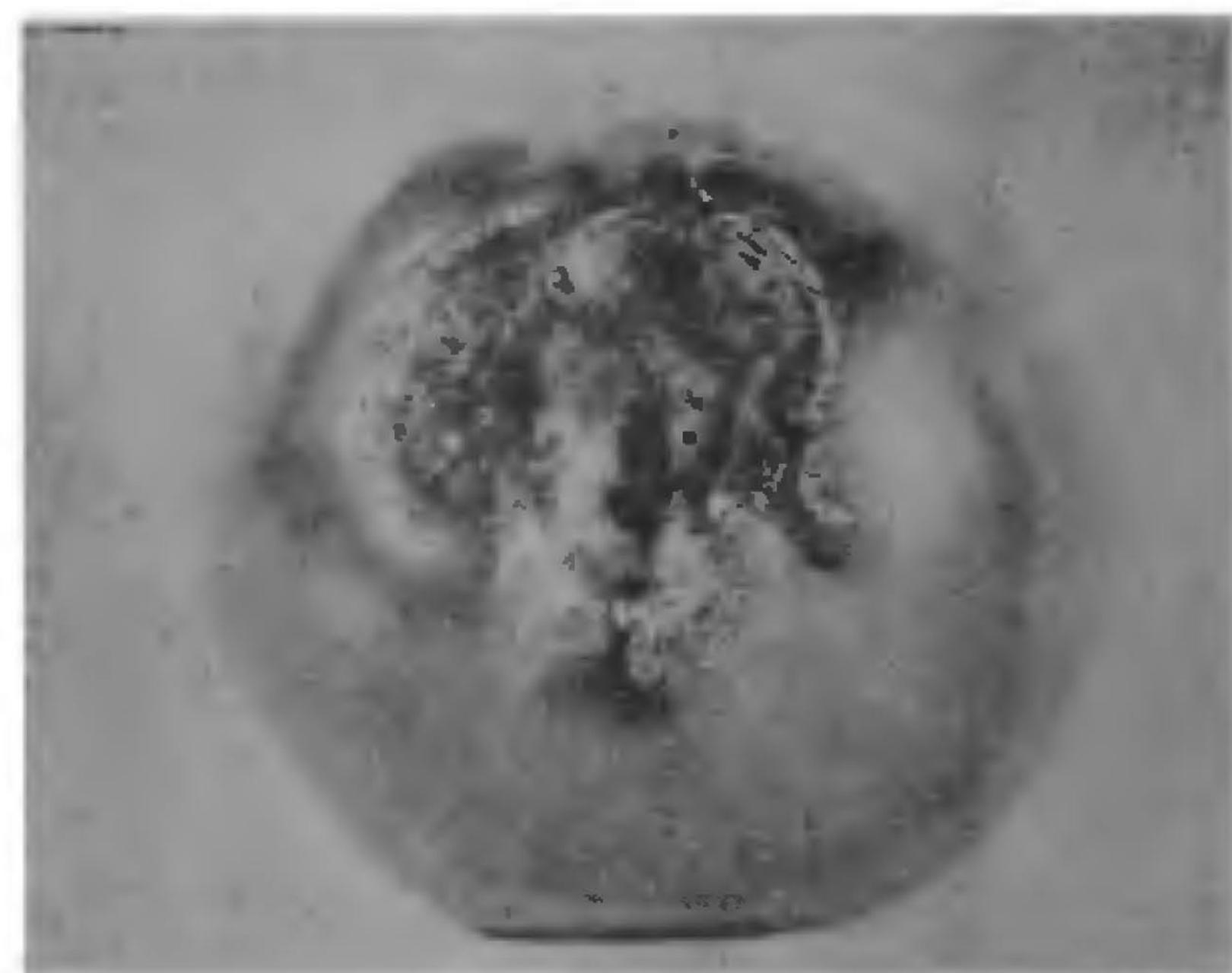


FIG. 1

size of the spots in older fruits increases and the decay penetrates deeply into the flesh. Only injured fruits can be infected by the organism as uninjured fruits failed to develop any symptoms.

The fungus grows well on Asthana and Hawker's Medium 'A' at $25^\circ \pm 1^\circ$ C. In culture the mycelial colony is white but becomes grey at maturity. Hyphae are septate, $2-6 \mu$, conidiophores are straight or curved, septate; conidia are mostly 4-celled (3-septate), light grey in colour and measure $8.75-21 \times 5.3-7.0 \mu$.

Extensive cross-inoculations were carried out and it was observed that the organism could infect the fruits of guava (*Psidium guajava* L.), brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.), mango (*Mangifera indica* L.), apple (*Pyrus malus* L.), banana (*Musa paradisiaca* L.), chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.), bean (*Dolichos lablab* L.), pea (*Pisum sativum* L.) and radish (*Raphanus sativus* L.). It, however, failed to infect orange (*Citrus aurantium* L.), emblic myrobalan (*Phyllanthus emblica* L.), carambola (*Averrhoa carambola* L.) and tubers of potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.). Suitable control were maintained in all the cases.

We are grateful to Dr. M. B. Ellis of C.M.I., Kew, England, for the help in final identification of the fungus and to the Ministry of Education for the award of a Scholarship to one of us (I. J. K.).

A NOTE ON DRECHSLERA ROT OF TOMATO

DURING September-December 1965, the authors observed a severe storage rot of tomato fruits in the local vegetable market. Consistent isolations from the diseased fruits invariably yielded *Drechslera australiense* (Bugn.) Subram. and Jain, which was confirmed from Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, England. The culture has been deposited at C.M.I., Kew, as No. 13182 and in the Botany Department, University of Allahabad. It was found to be pathogenic as it fully satisfied Koch's¹ postulates. No species of this genus has so far been reported on fruits of *Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill from any part of the world, hence it appears to be a new host for the above organism.

Department of Botany,
Allahabad University,
Allahabad (India),
September 28, 1968.

I. J. KAPOOR.
R. N. TANDON.

1. Koch, R., cited by Riker, A. J. and Riker, R. S.,
In *Introduction to Research on Plant Diseases*,
John S. Swift Co., Inc., New York, 1842.
2. Ridgway, R., *Color Standard and Color Nomenclature*, Washington, 1912.