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SPORORMIA DE. NOT., A NEW GENUS OF ASCOMYCETES FROM MAHARASHTRA

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INTRODUCTION

The Ascomycetous Fungi is the largest group. These fungi are highly diverse and versatile organisms adapted to all kinds of environment. Also they are heterogenous in nature and rich in their pattern.

However, it was observed that since during last few years Mycology, a branch of Botany has been neglected in Marathwadwa region and no studies have been done on this particular branch. Therefore, it was felt to undertake the work on taxonomic studies of ascomycetous fungi. These fungi occurring saprophytically on dead and decaying fallen leaves and twigs of plants.

On the critical study, the genus Sporormia de.not. spec.nov. has been found on dead stem of *Anogeissus latifolia* DC.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The work has been completed through following steps:

1. Collection of infected plant material
2. Laboratory work.
3. Identification of Fungi.

1. The collection of infected plant material was done at every fortnight. The field observation was done carefully and the date of collection and identification of the host was carefully recorded. It may be mentioned that for the identification of the host, particularly for the vernacular names the help was taken from a common layman

2. In the laboratory, the hand sections of these infected plant material were carefully taken. The slides were prepared by using Lactophenol as a mounting medium and cotton blue as a stain. Then the slides were sealed with nail paint and preserved in the laboratory.

3. The prepared slides were carefully observed under caliberated research microscope. The measurement of Ascocarp, Asci and Ascospores were carefully taken. The identification of different genera was done with the help a book "Genera of Fungi" by Clements and Shear(1973).

OBSERVATION

Historical Review

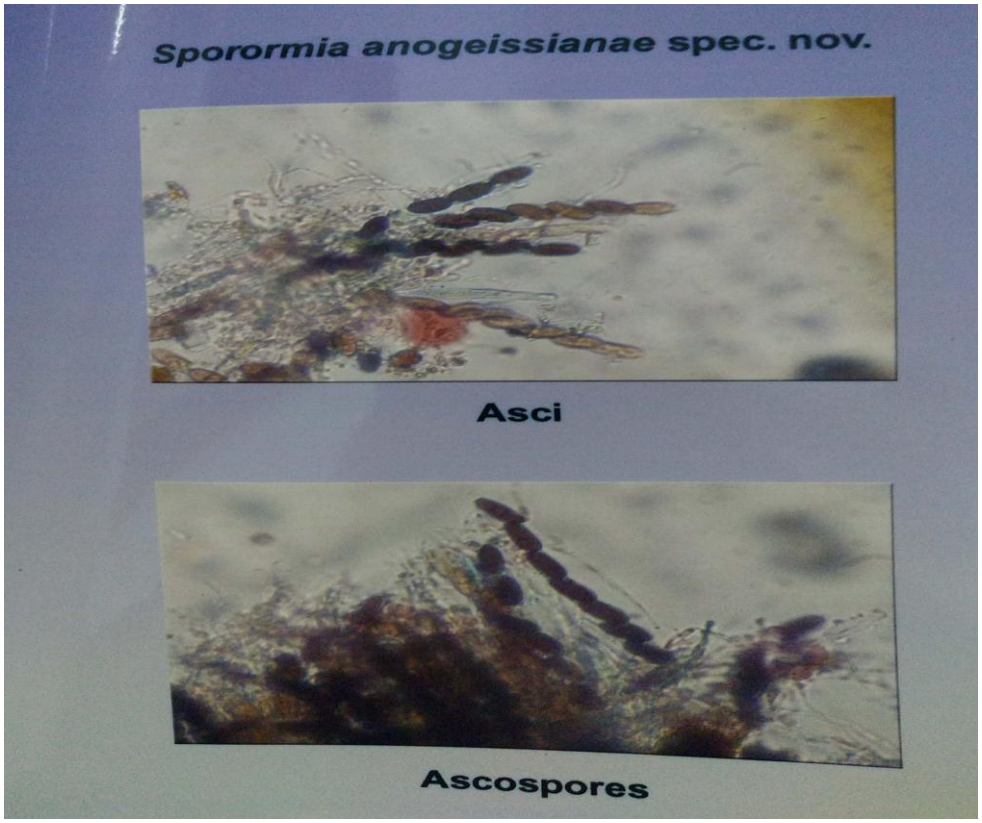
The genus Sporormia de.Not. was erected by de.Notaris (1849) with *Sporormia minima* Auers. as the type species. Saccardo's(1882-1931) "Sylloge Fungorum" described 30 species from the world . Ainsworth (1971) mentioned 40 species .However, the genus remained unrepresented in India until Mukerji and N.N. Bhandari(1972), described *Sporormia canita* on dead stem of Canita species from Delhi. Recently, Nagpurne (2003) has recorded *Sporormia caesalpinae* spec. nov.on dead stem of *Caesalpinia pulchirrima* Swarz. From Maharashtra. In the present collection, author has investigated one more species, viz Sporormia anogeisianae spec. nov. on dead stem of *Anogeissus latifolia* DC.

The genus is characterized by perithecia forming crust on epidermis, perithecium innate to erumpent, stromatic, black, gregarious or single, globose to ostiolate. Perithecium is 3-4 layered, ostiole lined by filiform hyaline periphyses. Asci numerous, unitunicate, cylindrical to clavate, sub sessile, 6-8 spoerd. Ascospores uniserriate, brown with mucous sheath.

***Sporomia anogeissianae* spec.nov.**

Matrix Sudied: Collected on dead stem of *Anogissus latifolia* DC. during the month of October2005, at Ramling Forest, Yedsi,Dist.-Osmanabad Leg. R.A. Kamble.

Perithecia innate to erumpent stromatic, black, gregarious or single, globose and ostiolate, paraphysate measuring 554-565µ x 398-410µ. Asci numerous, hyaline, cylindrical, stipitate, 6-8-spored, unitunicate measuring 71-80µ x12-15µ. Ascospores unitunicate, when younger are one celled and hyaline, later on becomes 3 celled and brown in coloured with thin mucilage sheath ,measuring 18-19µ x 10-1111.



Comparative Table of Species of Sporormia De. Not. From Marathwada

Sr. No.	Species	Host	Perithecia	Asci	Ascospores
01.	*S. caesalpinae* spec. nov. Leg. Nagpurne V.S.	Caesalpinia pulcherrima Swarz.	442-530 µ	116-130 µ X 10-18 µ	33-40 µ X 6-8 µ
02.	*S. anogeisianae* spec.nov. Leg. Kamble R.A.	Anogeissus latifolia DC.	554-565 µ X 398-410 µ	71- 80 µ X 12-15 µ	18-19 µ X 10-11 µ

DISCUSSION

The species *Sporormia* De. Not. has been included in the order Sphaeriales and family Sphaeriaceae.(Saccardo, Alexopolous & Mims).

The superficial, globoid, ostiolate and beaked perithecia proves its inclusion under order Sphaeriales.

After critical study, Author has observed the ascospores when young are hyaline, but when mature becomes 3 celled and brown in colour.

Thus, morphologically, S. anogeisianae spec. nov. differs from the species described earlier. Hence, described as a new species from India.

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