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A new species of Microdiplodia on Nephelium litchii Camb

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With 1 Fig. in the Text

During mycological surveys, a serious leaf spot disease of *Nephelium litchi* was observed at Gulab Gardens, Udaipur in the month of October, 1968. The diseased leaves showed yellowish-brown to brick-red areas mostly around the margin. The coloured areas gradually became light-



brown showing black dot-like bodies, which on microscopic examination appeared to be pycnidia. Theses bodies, when crushed yielded several bi-celled *Microdiplodia* like spores. In mycological literature, numerous species of this genus have been described and considered distinct on account of their host specificity. Since no species of *Microdiplodia* has been recorded on *Nephelium* or any member of *Sapindaceae*, the present *Microdiplodia* is named as *Microdiplodia litchii*. The diagnostic features are as follows:

Microdiplodia litchii sp. nov. Pathak and Desai.

Infection foliicolous, spots amphigenous, brick-red in the beginning changing to light-brown from the centre, mostly around margins of the leaves. Usually coalescing. Pycnidia, black dot-like, mostly in the central light-brown zone of the developing spot, ostiolate, up to 108 μ in diameter, conidia olivaceous, uniseptate, measuring 8.2–10.9 \times 2.4–4.6 μ .

On living leaves of *Nephelium litchi* Camb. at Gulab Gardens, Udaipur on October 15, 1968, Leg. Pathak. Specimen deposited in herbarium, C. M. I., Kew, England (IMI 130984).

Microdiplodia litchii spec. nov.

Maculae amphigenae, plerumque in folii margine evolutae, irregulares, solitariae vel approximatae et tunc plus minusve confluentes, primo sordide cinnabarinae, postea in centro pallide brunneae; pycnidia nigrescentia, plerumque in macularum centro evoluta, globosa, saepe plus minusve irregularia, ostiolo poro rotundato perforato praedita, hyphis mycelii reticulato-ramosis obtecta; conidia anguste ellipsoidea vel cylindracea utrinque late rotundata, recta raro leniter inaequilatera, raro continua, plerumque uniseptata, non vel lenissime constricta, olivacea, 8.2—10.9 \times 2.4—4,6 µ.

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