

MELIOLA KANNURENSIS SP. NOV. FROM (KANNUR) KERALA, INDIAV B Hosagoudar¹, G R Archana¹, K M Khaleel² and M Soumya³¹Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695 562²Sir Syed College, Taliparamba, Kannur, Kerala- 670 142.³Department of Environmental Studies, Kannur University, Swami Anandatheertha Campus, Edat, P.O., Payyanur, Kannur, Kerala - 670 327
khaleelchovva@yahoo.co.in**ABSTRACT**

A new species of the genus *Meliola*, namely, *M. kannurensis* infected the leaves of *Ficus gibbosa* was collected, identified, described and illustrated in detail.

Key words: Black mildews, costal plant, *Ficus gibbosa*, new species

INTRODUCTION

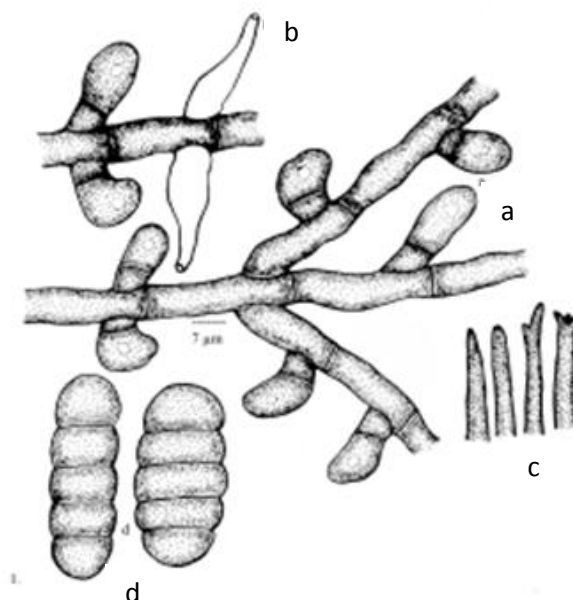
Kannur district has the narrow zone of coastal region with poor vegetation, mostly with prostrate plants. Erect species are small and short. *Ficus gibbosa* is the component of this coastal vegetation found infected with a black mildew fungus. Critical microscopic study revealed that it is hitherto undescribed species of the genus *Meliola* and hence the note.

Meliola kannurensis V B Hosagoudar, G R Archana, K M Khaleel and M Soumya, sp.nov. (Fig.-1)

Coloniae epiphyllae, tenues vel subdensae, ad 5 mm diam., confluentes. Hyphae rectae, subrectae, oppositae acuteque laxae ramosae, laxae vel arte reticulatae, cellulae 16-27 x 6-10 µm. Appressoria opposita, alternata, antrorsa vel subantrorsa, 16-23 µm longa; cellulae basillares cylindratae vel cuneatae, 3-6 µm longae; cellulae apicales oblongae, ovatae, integrae vel leniter angularis, 13-17 x 9-13 µm. Phialides appressoriis mixtus, alternatae,

oppositae, ampulliformes, 16-23 x 9-12 µm. Setae myceliales numerosae, simplices, acutae, obtusae vel dentatae ad apicem, ad 882 µm longae. Perithecia dispersa, ad 176 µm diam.; ascospores cylindratae, 4-septatae, constrictus ad septatae, 39-43 x 13-17 µm.

Colonies epiphyllous, thin to subdense, up to 5mm in diameter, confluent. Hyphae straight, substraight, branching opposite at acute to wide angles, loosely to closely reticulate, cells 16–27 x 6–10 µm. Appressoria opposite, alternate, antrorse to subantrorse, 16-23 µm long; stalk cells cylindrical to cuneate, 3-6 µm long; head cells oblong, ovate, entire to slightly angular, 13-17 x 9-13 µm. Phialides mixed with appressoria, alternate, opposite, ampulliform, 16-23 x 9-12 µm. Mycelial setae numerous, simple, acute, obtuse to dentate at the tip, up to 882 µm long. Perithecia scattered, up to 176 µm in diameter; ascospores cylindrical, 4-septate, constricted at the septa, 39-43 x 13-17 µm.



EXPLANATION TO LINE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1. *Meliola mutabilidis* sp.nov.

a-Appressorium, b- Phialide, c-Apical portion of the mycelial setae, d-Ascospores

Materials examined:

On leaves of *Ficus gibbosa* Bl. (Moraceae), Edat, Payyannur, Kannur, Jan.21, 2011, M. Soumya TBGT 4942 (holotype). Part of the collection has been deposited in HClO, New Delhi.

Based on the alternate and opposite appressoria, *Meliola kannurensis* is similar to *M. chlorophorae* Hansf. reported on *Chlorophora excelsa* from Uganda but differs from it having both acute, obtuse and dentate and longer mycelial setae (Hansford 1961).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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LITERATURE CITED

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