

COLLETOTRICHUM GLOEOSPORIOIDES (PENZ.) PENZ.
AND SACC. ON *PANCRATIUM VERECANDUM* AIT.,
A NEW RECORD FOR PAKISTAN

S.A. JAMIL KHAN* AND A. GHAFFAR

*Department of Botany,
University of Karachi, Karachi-32, Pakistan.*

Pancratium verecandum Ait., is widely propagated in Karachi as an ornamental plant for use in home garden because of its lush green leaves and beautiful flowers. During the spring of 1985, a diseased specimen of *P. verecandum* Ait., was collected from the nursery of the Department of Botany, University Campus, Karachi. The disease manifests in the form of small irregular water soaked lesions on the leaf lamina that enlarge slowly, change in colour from dark-brown to grey-white and coalesce to form necrotic lesions (Fig. 1). As the lesions become older, they turn grey-white to tan-white having numerous dark-black fruiting bodies. The infection progresses from tip and margin of leaves showing characteristics of dieback disease.



Fig. 1. *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* on *Pancratium verecandum*.

On microscopic examination, the causal fungus was identified as *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. & Sacc., which conforms with the description given by Sutton (1980). There does not appear to be any previous record of *C. gloeosporioides* on *Pancratium verecandum* (Ghaffar, et al, 1971; Mirza & Qureshi, 1978; Sutton, 1980). Brief description of the fungus is as follows:

*Crop Diseases Research Institute Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Karachi University Campus, Karachi.

Acervuli dark-brown to black, measuring 125-200 μm x 95-175 μm . Setae dark with acute tips, conidia hyaline, one celled, oblong, straight measuring 12.5-20 μm x 3.75-7.5 μm .

The authors wish to thank Dr. J.E.M. Mordue of the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew for confirming the identity of the fungus. The specimen has been deposited at Herb. C.M.I., Kew, Acc. IMI299180 and at the KUMH Acc. 2140.

References

- Ghaffar, A., S.Q. Abbas and A. Kafi. 1971. Fungi of Karachi. Suppl. 1. *Pak. J. Sci.*, 23: 261-266.
- Mirza, J.H. and M.S.A. Qureshi. 1978. *Fungi of Pakistan*. p. 311. Pub. Univ. Agric., Faisalabad.
- Sutton, B.C. 1980. *The Coelomycetes*. C.M.I. Kew. Surrey, England.

(Received for publication 29 January, 1987)