
A NOTE ON THE ISOLATION OF *CLADOSPORIUM CARRIONII*

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Chromomycosis is a chronic subcutaneous mycotic disease caused by several morphologically related fungi belonging to the dematiaceous group. Of these the *Cladosporium carrionii* produces a chronic granulomatous disease of the skin with involvement of epidermis or papillary portion of the dermis with microabscesses containing mainly polymorphonuclear leukocytes.

A Six year old cross bred cow was brought to the Veterinary Hospital, Mannuthy with tumour like mass on the lower part of hind leg. History revealed the lesion began as a small plague and satellite lesions developed around it which later coalescence to form tumor – like mass. Pus was collected and inoculated onto Sabouraud's Dextrose Agar (SDA) plates; one incubated at 37°C and the other at room temperature in humid chamber. The colonies were noticed on SDA plate incubated at room temperature only after 17 days and two weeks later it had a diameter of 4 cm. No growth was observed on plates incubated at 37°C.

Macroscopically the colonies were dark green-black, flat with a raised center and outlined by submerged short, aerial hyphae, giving the appearance of furry surface. Microscopically the only sporulation seen is Cladosporium type with the hyphae and conidiophores appear septate and dark. Long conidiophores with single or branched chains of conidia are the characteristic of this

species as described by Larone (1976). Conidia are smooth, pigmented, elliptical or oval. The fungus was identified based on macroscopic and microscopic morphology of the colonies as per the guidelines of Larone (1976), Al-Doory (1971) and Moore and Jaciow (1979). Both the slow growing nature and growth inhibition at 37°C were in accordance with Al-Doory (1971). Clinical findings of this case resemble the description of Hazen *et al.* (1970). The isolated fungus was differentiated from *Cladosporium bantianum* by its slow growth rate at room temperature (inhibited at 37°C) compared to 43°C for *Cladosporium bantianum* confirmed its identity.

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