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A note on the association of *Cylindrocarpon effusum* and *C. lucidum* with *Radopholus similis* in coconut

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Association of the fungus *Cylindrocarpon* with roots of coconut palms affected by leaf scorch disease in Ceylon was reported by Ekanayake². Booth and Stover¹ recorded the constant association of *Cylindrocarpon musae* with *Radopholus similis* from all banana growing regions of the world. Koshy *et al.*³ reported occurrence, distribution and pathogenicity of *R. similis* on coconut in India.

To study the association of other microorganisms with the burrowing nematode causing lesions, roots of coconut palms showing typical *R. similis* lesions were collected and washed carefully to remove all adhering soil particles. For isolations newly formed lesions on the white portion of the main roots were chosen. Three different methods were used for making the isolations, viz. (a) transverse sections (1 mm) of roots having lesions were cut and surface sterilised with 0.1 per cent mercuric chloride for one minute and washed thrice in sterile water and transferred to potato dextrose agar medium (b) small lesions with surrounding root tissues were scooped with the help of a sharp blade and transferred to PDA (c) stele of the main roots showing lesions in the cortex and epidermis were separated and transferred to PDA.

Whereas no fungus could be isolated from the stelar tissues, the cortical region in and around the nematode lesions always yielded species of *Cylindrocarpon*. The species of *Cylindrocarpon* found associated with lesions on roots of coconut were identified as *C. effusum* Bugn. and *C. lucidum* Booth.

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¹Booth, C. and R. H. Stover. *Trans. Br. mycol. Soc.* **63** : 503-507, (1974).

²Ekanayake, U. B. M. *Ceylon Coconut Quarterly.* **15** : 54-57, (1964).

³Koshy, P. K., V. K. Sosamma and C. P. R. Nair. *Indian J. Nematol.* **5** : 26-35, (1975).

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