

HAPLOSPORANGIUM DECIPIENS THAXTER AND OTHER MICROFUNGI FROM ILLINOIS

BY

B. T. PALM

University of Illinois, Urbana.

During fields trips in the neighborhood of Urbana, Illinois, a number of interesting microfungi have recently been collected. As some of these seem to be of rare occurrence in the United States or seldom met with in Illinois, it has been thought expedient to put them on record in this short note.

HAPLOSPORANGIUM DECIPIENS Thaxter

On a sample of surface soil, containing considerable decaying algal material that consisted of *Vaucheria* sp. and various blue-greens, this *Haplosporangium* developed in the laboratory. The sample had been collected in Brownfield woods, near Urbana (November, 1930), in one of the temporarily dried-up creeks that run through the forest.

The fungus grew quite well in pure culture on corn-meal agar where it developed an abundant crop of the characteristic monosporial sporangia. The development of mycelium, sporangiophores and spores conforms very well with the original description and plates given by Thaxter (New or peculiar Zygomycetes. 3. Blakeslea, Dissophora, and Haplosporangium, nova genera, Bot. Gaz. 1914, vol. 58, pp. 353-366, see pages 364-365 and pl. 29, figs. 37-39). Zygospores are unknown, and all attempts to induce their formation by bringing together mycelial colonies of possibly different origin (all, however, from the original culture) were without results. There is thus some reason to believe that the material in cultivation belongs to a heterothallic strain.

The finding of this peculiar zygomycete in Illinois is well worth recording as it has so far, to my knowledge, been found only once. According to Thaxter (l.c p. 364) "it has been seen but once and was found on dung of the curious cave-dwelling *Selenodon* from Hayti". It is probably not so uncommon as it would seem from the records thus far published.

EVERHARTIA LIGNITALIS Thaxter

This helicosporoid fungus was found on decaying wood in Brownfield woods during the month of December, 1930. In spite of the temperature it had formed numerous sporodochia. The characteristics of the species agree well with the description of Linden in his monograph of the helicosporous Fungi Imperfecti (Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 1929. Vol. 16, pp. 227-388).

CLADOCHYTRIUM TENUE Nam.

This fungus is seldom recorded in literature but is probably not uncommon on decaying parts of higher water plants and algae. *Cl. tenue* was found in a sample of dying *Vaucheria* from Brownfield woods near Urbana.

Among parasitic fungi from Illinois worthy of recording are the following:

Peronospora floerkeae Kellerm. on *Floerkea proserpinacoides* Willd.; Brownfield woods (April, 1931).

Peronospora hydrophylli Waite on *Ellisia nyctelea* L., Oakwood (May, 1931).

Plasmopara obducens Schroet. on *Impatiens biflora* Walt.; Oakwood (May, 1931).

Entyloma floerkeae Holw. on *Floerkea proserpinacoides* Willd.; Brownfield woods (April, 1931).