

Short Communication

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A NEW SPECIES OF *HUMICOLA* FROM INDIA

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Key Words : *Humicola Jabalpurensis* sp. Nov. Keratinophilic fungus,

During the course of an intensive survey for keratinophilic fungi of Jabalpur soils in 1985, we isolated an interesting fungus using human hair as bait. This fungus was identified as *Humicola* species. However, it was interesting to note that when this isolate was grown on Brain heart infusion agar medium at 37°C, it regularly developed a synnemata. It also differed from other species of *Humicola* in the size of conidia. It is therefore described as *Humicola jabalpurensis* sp. nov.

Humicola jabalpurensis sp. nov. isolated from garbage soil of Marhatal, Jabalpur, using human hair as bait, January 1985, IMI No. 289445; Leg. Alka Pandey.

Humicola jabalpurensis sp. nov.

Colonies light smoke grey, cottony to granular, hyphae hyaline to pale golden, septate, 2 µm wide; chlamydo spores absent, conidia solitary, apical, pyriform, occasionally ovoid to spherical (4-6 µm) and oblong elliptical (4 x 6 - 6 x 9 µm) 1-celled, pale golden brown to golden brown, intercalary conidia absent; synnemata present only on Brain Heart Infusion Agar medium (Figures 1 to 3).

Latin diagnosis

Coloniae sunt fumosae - nigrae, gossypiosae vel granulosae hyphae hyalinae vel palidae flavae, septatae, remosae, 2 µm crassae; chlamydo sporaee absente; conidia solitaria, terminalia, piriformes, aliqua vice sunt ovoides vel globosa (4-6µm) et ellipsoidea (4 x 6 - 6 x 9 µm) unicellata, flavo-castanea palide vel versflava - castanea, sine conidia, intercalaria, synnemata, phialides et phialo sporaee non habet. Tamen multa synnemata crescent tantummodo in medio "Brain Heart Infusion Agar"

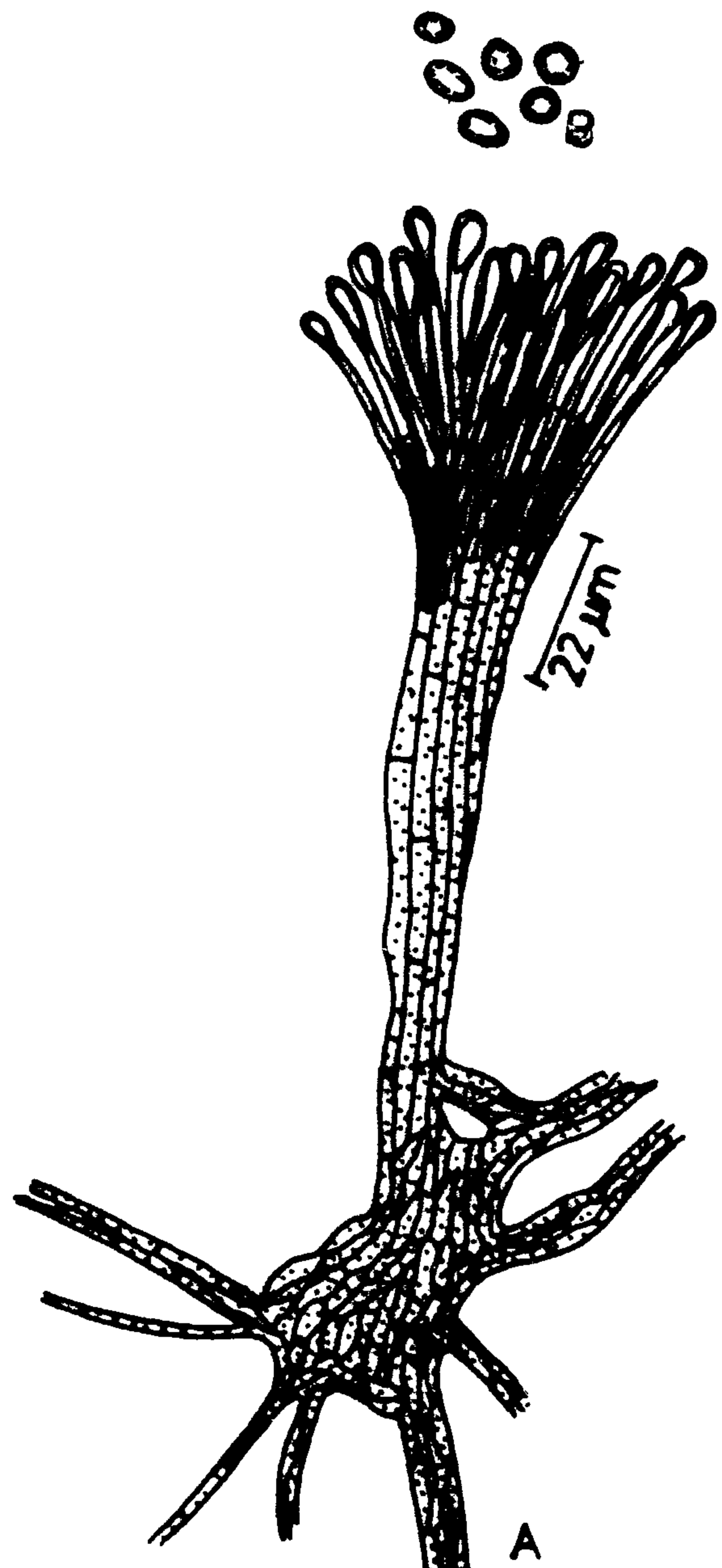


Figure 1. Camera lucida of synnemata of *Humicola jabalpurensis* Pandey & Singh. A. Synnemata B. Conidia.



Figure 2. Photomicrograph of synnemata of *H. Jabalpurensis* Pandey & Singh.

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Figure 3. Photomicrograph showing many synnemata a synanamorph of *H. jabalpurensis* Pandey & Singh.

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