

Pyrenomycetous Fungi of Punjab-V. Two Unrecorded Species of *Nectria*

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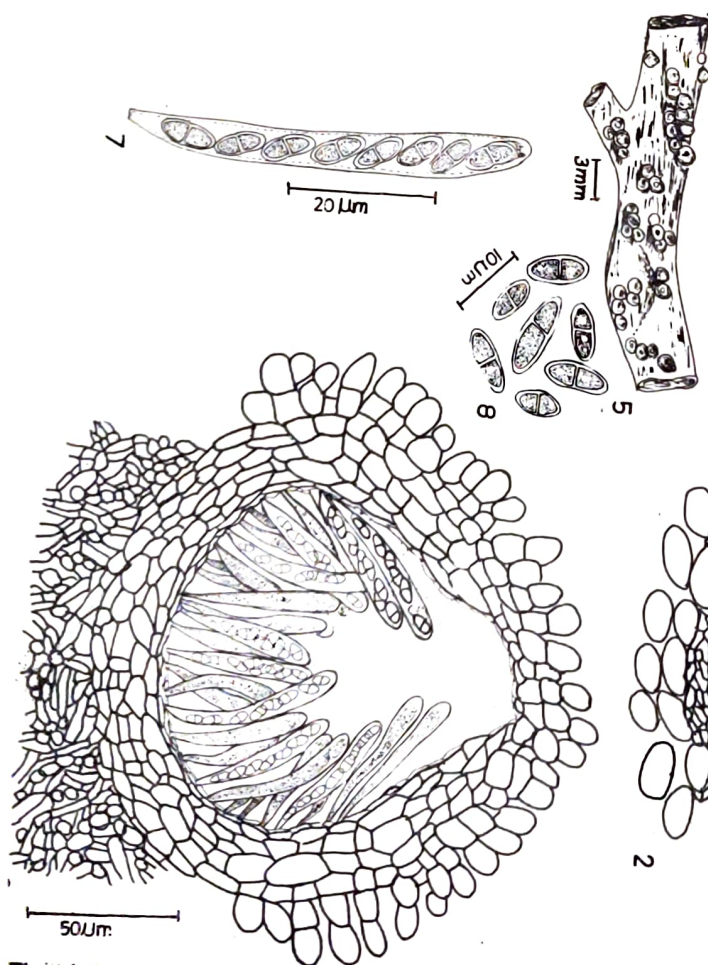
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Nectria episphaeria and *Nectria capillosa* sp. nov. are described. The taxa are new records from Punjab.

Key Words - Herbs *Nectria* New Perithecia

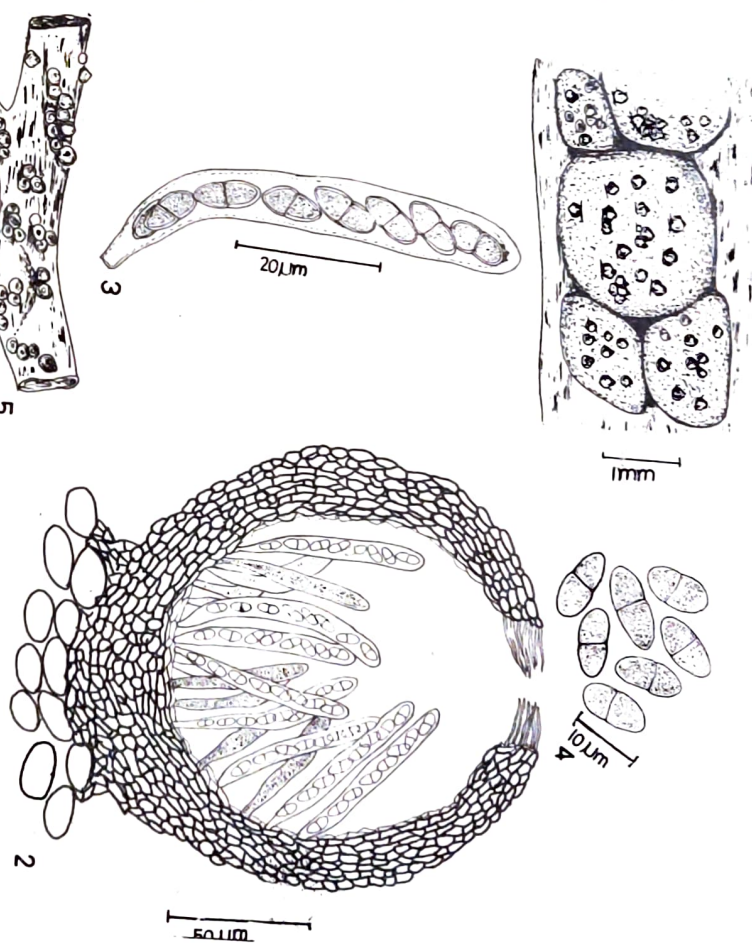
Pyrenomycetous fungi of Punjab have been reported (Dargan & Singh 1982 a,b,c; Dargan & Mann 1985). This paper deals with two species of *Nectria*, *N. episphaeria* and *N. capillosa* sp. nov., collected from herbaceous hosts of different localities of Punjab state. Specimens were deposited in the herbarium of the Department of Botany, Punjabi University, Patiala (PUN).

Nectria episphaeria (Tode:Fr.) Fr. Summ. Veg. Scand. ii p 388. 1849. Fig 1.4 Stroma rudimentary. Perithecia scattered to gregarious, bright red, seated on the stroma of another sphaeriaceous fungus, 110-155 μ m in diameter, ovate with short apical papilla, perithecial wall 15-30 μ m wide, undifferentiated, textura angularis, cells lining perithecial cavity thin walled; hyaline, 4.8-11.2 μ



Figs. 1-4 *N. episphaeria*

1. Stromata general habit. 2. V.S. Stroma showing detailed structure. 3. Ascus. 4. Ascospores.



Figs. 5-8 *N. capillosa*

5. Stromata general habit. 6. V.S. Stroma showing detailed structure. 7. Ascus. 8. Ascospores.

3.2-4.8 μ m. Asci 50-65 μ m 6-8.5 μ m, cylindrical to clavate, eight spored, apex obtuse, apical ring present. Ascospores 6.5-11.5 μ m 3.2-6.5 μ m, oblong to ellipsoid, two celled, slightly constricted at the septum, hyaline.

Specimens examined: On fallen angiospermous twigs, Chhatbir Zoological Park, Patiala, S.K. Mann 493 (PUN) August 25, 1983; S.K. Mann 494 (PUN) August 25, 1983.

This is a common species in India and has been reported by Dargan *et al.* (1985) from Himachal Pradesh.

Nectria capillosa Dargan et Mann sp. nov. Figs. 5-8. Stromata tenuiter evolvo, perithecia diam 95-140 μ m, solitaria ad gregaria, conoidea ad globosa, capillosa, capillaturae curtusa, 1-3 lucularia. Asci 35-55 μ m 6-8 μ m, annulum apicalis praesentia. Ascospores 3.2-9.5 μ m 1.5-3.2 μ m ovalie ad ellipsoidea. Typus: Leg. S.K. Mann 492 (PUN).

Stromata poorly developed. Perithecia solitary to aggregated in groups of 2-10, 95-140 μ m in diameter, short conoid to globose, orange red, surface rough due to the presence of hairs. Hairs 1-3 celled, short rigid simple, cells 9.5-14.5 μ m 8-11 μ m, hyaline. Perithecial wall undifferentiated, textura angularis, 12-24 μ m wide, cells lining the perithecial cavity thin walled, hyaline. Asci 35-55 μ m 6-8 μ m, cylindrical with short flattened base, apical ring present, apex obtuse, 8 spored. Ascospores 3.2-9.5 μ m 1.5-3.2 μ m, monostichously to distichously placed, oval to ellipsoid, bicelled, smooth walled, hyaline, paraphyses disintegrating in mature perithecia.

Specimen examined: on dead wood of herbaceous plants, Ropar head works, Ropar, S.K. Mann 492 (PUN), August 10, 1983.

Lasionectria was proposed by Saccardo (1883) as a subgenus of *Nectria* for species with minutely ilose perithecia. However, Booth (1959) placed all the species belonging to the subgenus under *Nectria* in a group which he named 'Lasionectria'. According to him, this group consists of 4 species based on the host substratum. *N. capillosa* resembles the British species *N. ellisii* Booth, regarding the substratum but differs markedly from the latter in the size of hairs, perithecia and the ascospores.

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