



## TWO NEW SPECIES OF FUNGI FROM CENTRAL INDIA

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**ABSTRACT:** Two new species of fungi namely, *Cercospora spigeliae* and *Cheilymenia jabalpurens* collected from institute's campus, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh were described illustrated and compared with allied species. The cercosporoid fungus is causing severe leaf spots in leaves of a medicinal plant, *Spigelia anthelmia* (Loganiaceae) and for the first time reported on this host family. The second species is a member of Pezizales, Ascomycota and grows on low humus disturbed murum soil, dug for planting of sapling.

**Keywords:** Cercosporoid fungi, leaf spot, taxonomy, new species, pezizales.

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Genus *Cercospora* was established by G. Fresenius (Fresenius 1863) with its type species

*Cercospora apii* Fresen. Till date a large number of species have been accommodated under this genus (Chupp 1953; Crous and Braun 2003; Ellis 1971, 1976; Kamal 2010; Vasudeva 1963; Verma et al. 2008). Most of the species reported under this genus has been transferred to other more appropriate allied genera like *Cercoseptoria*, *Cercosporina*, *Cladosporium*, *Mycovellosiella*, *Passalora*, *Phaeoramularia*, *Prathigada*, *Pseudocercopsora*, *Pseudocercosporella*, *Ramularia*, *Ramulispora*, *Septorella*, *Zasmidium*, etc. from time to time by various workers.

Genus *Cheilymenia* was established by J.L.É. Boudier (Boudier 1907) with its type species *Cheilymenia stercorea* (Pers.) Boud. (basionym *Peziza stercorea* Pers.). The genus has a widespread distribution, especially in temperate regions and contains 66 species (Kirk et al., 2008). Species included in this genus are very similar in appearance and habitat. There are 13 species of *Cheilymenia* reported on different substrates from India (Kar and Pal 1968a, b; Thind and Kaushal 1979, 1981; Thind and Waraitch 1966, 1974; Thind et al. 1959; Waraitch 1980).

The present article report two new fungi, namely *Cercospora spigeliae* causing leaf spots in *Spigelia anthelmia* and *Cheilymenia jabalpurens*, growing on low fertile soil during late rainy season from central India

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

### Collection and study of fungi

The samples of new fungi were collected from campus of TFRI, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. The specimens were deposited in the mycology herbarium of Forest Pathology Division, Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur.

### Identification of fungi

Microscopic slides were prepared by using cotton blue and lacto-glycerol mountant. Details of morphology were observed under stereo zoom microscope, Leica Germany. Micro slides were observed under advanced research microscope, Leica Germany, model Leitz DMRB/E, using 5x, 10x, 20x 40x objectives and 10x and 15x eyepieces. Observations were also made under phase contrast and dark field. Photographs were taken by 7.3 mega pixel digital camera, make Sony. Identification of fungal fruiting bodies has done with help of relevant literature (Crous and Braun 2003; Denison, 1964; Ellis 1971, 1976; Kamal 2010; Kamal et al., 1987; Khan et al., 1992; Thind and Kaushal 1980; Thind and Waraitch 1974; Verma, 2014; Verma et al., 2008) and literature available on internet.

## RESULTS

### Taxonomic Description:

***Cercospora spigeliae* R.K. Verma sp. nov. (Figures 1-8)**

**Etym.** derived from host name