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DISTRIBUTION OF *APHYLLOPHORALES*  
IN INDIA  
I. *DUPORTELLA TRISTICULA* (BERK. & BR.)  
REINKING

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The present work sums up the current knowledge on the occurrence and distribution of *Duportella tristicula* (Berk. & Br.) Reinking in India. Only five localities are known so far, as shown on the map. The host plants of this fungus are cited and its economic importance as a wood-rotting species is evaluated.

### Introduction

During the investigations on *Aphyllophorales* of India, I had the opportunity to collect, in addition to the more common ones, a number of rare or interesting species not noted previously in this country. Therefore I decided to throw light on their hosts and their distribution in India, in similar manner as did other workers for their countries, e. g. Niemelä (1982), Niemelä and Kotiranta (1982), Tortić (1984, 1985) etc.

In this paper is presented the distribution of *Duportella tristicula* (Berk. & Br.) Reinking in India. This species is already known from Philippine Islands, Malaya, Ceylon, Nigeria, Uganda, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand (Cunningham 1957), Pakistan (Boidin and Ahmad 1963) and Vietnam (Parmasto 1986).

### Materials and Methods

All the collections were made by the author, who also identified most of them. The names of mycologists who determined other specimens are cited at appropriate places. The localities are shown on the map (Fig. 1) and several new hosts of this fungus are recorded. All the

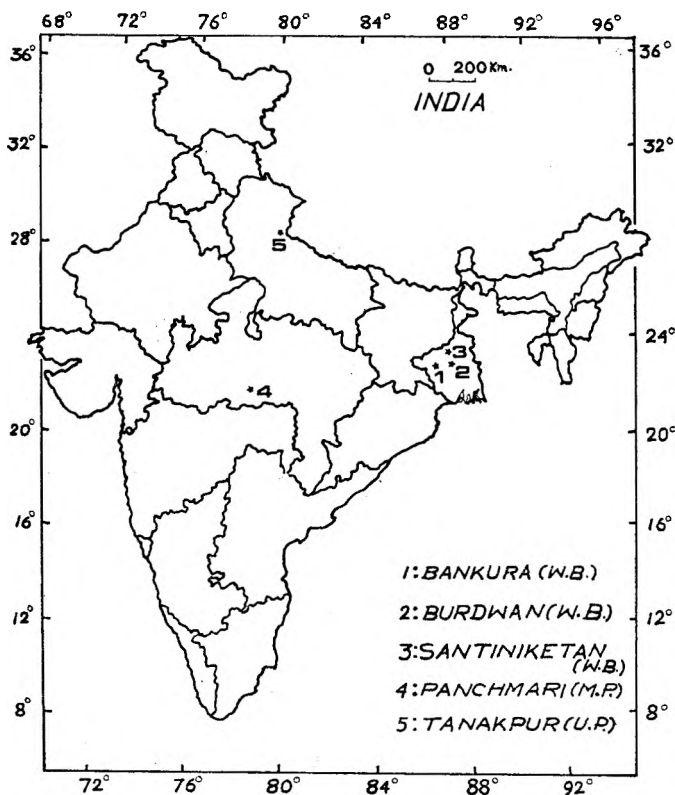


Fig. 1.

hosts recorded in this paper are new for *Duportella tristicula* (Berk. et Br.) Reinking. Description is not given since it is available from the literature (Boidin and Ahmad 1963, De 1985, 1986) and only remarks about some characters are added in two instances.

The first collection is deposited in the herbarium of the Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India (HCIO), others in the Mycological herbarium of Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan, India (BRCMH).

### Localities

Bankura (W. B.), on the bark of a dead branch of *Gossypium herbaceum* L., alt. about 40 m, 16 9 1979 (HCIO 37186). It was identified by D. A. Reid (Kew, England) who stated (personal communication) that the spores of this material agree with the spores of specimens from Ceylon from where this species was first described. This was the first published locality for India (De 1985). Later the author collected another specimen from the same locality, in a garden, on dead branch of *Bougainvillea spectabilis* L., 19 11 1984 (BRCMH T57).

Santiniketan (W. B.): campus of Botany Department, Visva-Bharati, on dead branches of *Cassia fistula* L., alt about 40 m, 18 10 1980 (BRCMH T52).

Burdwan (W. B.): campus of Burdwan University, Golapbag, on dead branches of *Saraca indica* L., alt. 20 m, 27 10 1984 (BRCMH T53). The specimen was determined by J. Boidin (Lyon, France) who noted: »very beautiful sulfocystidia«.

Tanakpur (U. P.): garden of Forest Rest House, on dead branches of three plants of *Nerium odorum* Soland., alt. 200 m, 30 10 1984 (BRCMH T54, 55, 56).

Panchmari (M. P.): Jatashankar, on dead branches of *Adhatoda vasica* Nees, alt. 750 m, 22 10 1985 (BRCMH T58).

### Discussion and Conclusions

In India *Duportella tristicula* grows only as a saprophyte on dead wood of angiosperms. It occurs rarely in natural forest communities, and most of the collections came from gardens where they were found growing on a wide spectrum of hosts. Its economic importance is negligible, since a great part of hosts is of minor importance and the rot caused by it does not progress rapidly.

It is distributed in the Eastern, Central and Northern parts of India. Most localities are in the lowlands; the highest is Panchmari, at the altitude of 750 m. Although the number of localities is still limited, only five for all India, they are rather far apart and the species seems to be widely spread. It is very probable that more finds will be made by further investigations. The lack of collections from Western and Southern India reflects perhaps a less intense collecting activity.

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SAŽETAK

RASPROSTRANJENOST GLJIVA IZ GRUPE APHYLLOPHORALES U INDIJI  
I. *DUPORTELLA TRISTICULA* (BERK & BR.) REINKING

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U radu su prikazani rezultati istraživanja o rasprostranjenosti vrste *Duportella tristicula* u Indiji. Dosad je ustanovljeno samo pet lokaliteta tih gljiva, koji su prikazani na karti. Kako su ti lokaliteti međusobno više ili manje udaljeni, pretpostavlja se da je gljiva kudikamo rasprostranjenija. Navode se i biljke novi domaćini za ovu vrstu. Kako one nemaju veliku ekonomsku važnost, ni gljiva ne predstavlja neku opasnost, pogotovo što trulež koju izaziva sporo napreduje.

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