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CORYNESPORA CASSIICOLA (BERK. & CURT.) WEI CAUSING LEAF
SPOT ON *IPOMOEA CARNEA* JACQ

The leaves of *Ipomoea carnea* in the Agricultural College Campus Vellayani, Kerala were found to be heavily infected by a species of *Corynespora*. The symptoms first appeared as minute yellow discolourations which later turned brown. They were circular to irregular with concentric rings and were encircled by an yellowish halo. The size varied from 0.3 mm – 1.0 cm. In advanced stages the spots coalesced and covered a major portion of the lamina giving it a scorched appearance. The symptoms were not noticed in any other part of the plant.

The fungus was isolated, purified by single spore isolation and its pathogenicity was established by artificial inoculations. The fungus produced dark grey mycelium on potato dextrose agar. Mycelium was mostly immersed in the substratum, septate, 2-6 μ thick. Conidiophores were erect, straight, septate and measured 200-700 x 4-10. μ Conidia were formed singly or in chains. They were straight or curved, cylindrical, pale olivaceous brown with 4-15 pseudosepta and measured 30-200 x 9-20 μ with a truncate base.

On artificial inoculations the fungus infected tomato, rubber and sesame. The spore measurement and the host range of the fungus indicated that it was *Corynespora cassiicola* (Berk. & Curt.) WEI which is a new record on *Ipomoea carnea* Jacq.

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