

***Asterina hugoniae* sp. nov.**  
(Dothideomycetes: Asterinaceae) from  
Kerala, India

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During the survey of the foliicolous fungi in the Western Ghats region of Kerala State, we came across a big liana, *Hugonia mystax* L. (Linaceae) found infected with the black mildew. Microscopic examination of the fungus and critical review of the literature revealed that it is a hitherto undescribed species of the genus *Asterina*. Hence, it is described and illustrated here in detail.

***Asterina hugoniae* sp. nov.**  
(Fig. 1)

**Material examined:** 03.xi.2009, on leaves of *Hugonia mystax* L. (Linaceae), Malabar Botanic Garden, Kozhikode, Kerala, India, coll. A. Sabeena & M.C. Riju, TBGT 4249 (holotype), MycoBank No. 561716. Part of the collection (isotype) has been deposited in HCIO, New Delhi.

Coloniae amphigenae, plerumque epiphyllae, subdensae vel densae, ad 2mm diam., confluentes.

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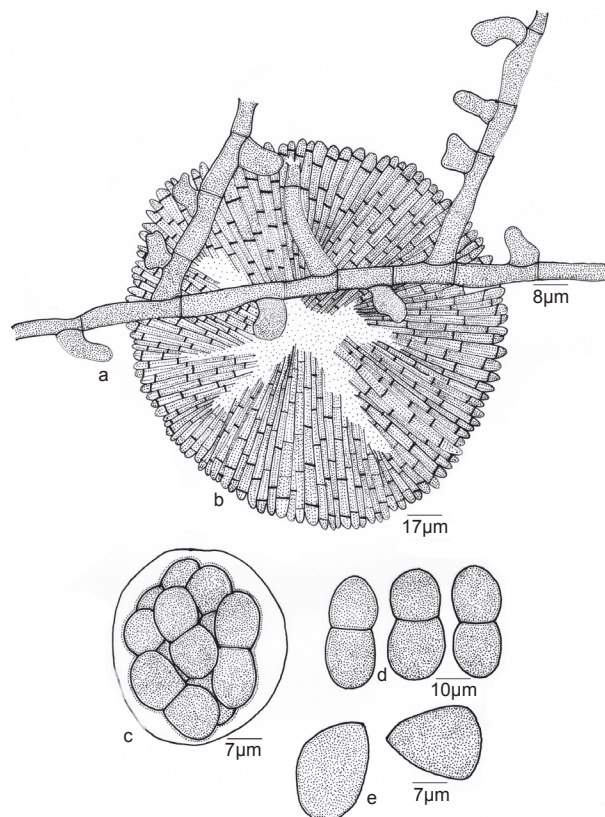
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Hypphae subrectae vel flexuosae, oppositae vel irregulariter acuteque vel laxe ramosae, laxe vel arte reticulatae, cellulae 12–27 x 3–5  $\mu$ m. Appressoria unicellularis, alternata vel unilateralis, ovata, integra vel plerumque sublobata, 5–12 x 5–10  $\mu$ m. Thyriothechia dispersa, orbicularis, stellatim dehiscentes ad centre, ad 300 $\mu$ m diam.; margine raro fimbriatae; asci ovati vel globosi, octospori, 20–37  $\mu$ m diam.; ascospores conglobatae, 1-septatae, constrictus ad septatis, 22–27 x 10–15  $\mu$ m, parietis leniter verrucosus. Pycnothyria numerosa, dispersa, orbicularis, ad 100 $\mu$ m diam., stellatim dehiscentes ad centre, margine crenatae vel fimbriatae; pycnothyriosporae unicellularis, globosae, ovatae, 15–22 x 12–20  $\mu$ m, parietis glabrus.

Colonies amphigenous, mostly epiphyllous, subdense to dense, up to 2mm in diameter, confluent. Hypphae substraight to flexuous, branching opposite to irregular at acute to wide angles, loosely to closely reticulate, cells 12–27 x 3–5  $\mu$ m. Appressoria one



**Figure 1.** *Asterina hugoniae* sp. nov. a – Appressorium, b – Thyriothecium, c – Ascus, d – Ascospores, e – Pycnothyriospores

celled, alternate to unilateral, ovate, entire to mostly sublobate, 5–12 x 5–10  $\mu\text{m}$ . Thyriothecia scattered, orbicular, stellately dehisced at the centre, up to 300 $\mu\text{m}$  in diam.; margin rarely fimbriate; asci ovate to globose, octosporous, 20–37  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam.; ascospores conglobate, 1-septate, constricted at the septum, 22–27 x 10–15  $\mu\text{m}$ , wall slightly verrucose. Pycnothyria numerous, scattered, orbicular, up to 100 $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter, stellately dehisced at the centre, margin crenate to fimbriate; pycnothyriospores unicellular, globose, ovate, 15–22 x 12–20  $\mu\text{m}$ , wall smooth.

**Etymology:** specific epithet is based on the host genus.

This is the first report of the genus *Asterina* on the members of the family Linaceae (Hosagoudar & Abraham 2000).

#### REFERENCE

Hosagoudar, V.B. & T.K. Abraham (2000). A list of *Asterina* Lev. species based on the literature. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany* 24: 557–587.

