

Study on black band disease of jute

Symptoms:

1. A dense black band develops around the stem of the mature plant at about 2-3 feet above the ground level.
2. The bark of the stem in some places splits open longitudinally with exposed, brownish dry fibers at the later stages of disease development and die.
3. Large number of minute black pycnidia is formed on the affected blackened area of the stem.
4. On rubbing the diseased stem, fingers become black due to dark pycnidiospores.

Causal Organism: *Botryodiplodia theobromae*

Pathogenic characters:

Mycelia: Mycelium is hyaline to pale brown in color, septate, profusely branched.

Pycnidia: The pycnidia are flask shape, dark brown to black, ostiolated and embedded in the host tissue. Pycnidia contain short conidiophores and conidia.

Pycnidiospores: The conidia are called pycnidiospores, double celled, comparatively thick walled, oblong or oval shaped and dark brown in color.

Taxonomic position:

Kingdom: Fungi

Division: Deuteromycota

Class: Coelomycetes

Order: Sphaeropsidales

Family: Sphaeropsidaceae

Genus: *Botryodiplodia*

Species: *Botryodiplodia theobromae*

