

INHIBITION OF CERTAIN FUNGI BY *MEMNONIELLA ECHINATA*

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Memnoniella echinata (Riv.) Golloway, a cosmopolitan dematiaceous fungus is well known as a decomposer of cellulosic material (Ellis, 1972, White et al, 1949). During our studies on the fungi of Karachi the fungus was found to be a predominant isolate from water submerged twigs of *Bambusa* sp. (Ghaffar & Qaiser, 1972). Similar observations were made by Wade (1947) who found this to be predominant on textile fabric in mixed inoculations with *Chaetomium globosum* and *Sta hybotrys atra*. To test its competitive ability, *M. echinata* (K.U. Bot. Dept. acc. no. 166) was grown on Czapek Dox Agar, pH 5.3 opposite *Alternaria tenuis*, *Aspergillus fischeri*, *A. fumigatus*, *A. niger*, *A. quadrilineatus*, *Cunninghamella echinata*, *Curvularia pallescens*, *Drechslera* sp., *Fusarium chlamydosporioides*, *F. lni*, *F. moniliforme*, *F. semitectum*, *Macrophomina phaseoli*, *Myrothecium striatispermum*, *Nigrospora* sp., *Stachybotrys atra*, *Trichoderma hamatum*, *T. pseudokonungu*, *Tricothecium roseum* and *C. etoniu.n globo.un*. The dishes were incubated at 28°C and the rate of growth of the organisms were measured daily.

M. echinata secreted toxic metabolite in the medium, retarded the growth of the test fungi and produced a zone of inhibition of 2-10 mm in 7 days time. It may be mentioned that production of antifungal metabolites by *M. echinata* has not been reported by Brian (1951) and Broadbent (1966), whereas it produced an inhibitor of Southern bean mosaic virus (Gupta & Price, 1950).

References

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