Banana leaf spot Mycosphaerella musicola, the perfect stage of Cercospora musae Zimm.

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Abstract : During an examination of banana leaves infected with Cercospora Jamaica the author observed two-celled spores, apparently ascospores, which developed germ-tubes and appressoria similar to those of C. musae. Perithecia producing such spores were found without much difficulty and single ascospore isolates to cultures identical with those of C. musae, and yielding conidia of C. musae.
method of Meredith and Butler [R.A.M., xix, p. 228]. Inoculations of heart leaf
Michel plants with suspensions of conidia so obtained repeatedly gave rise to
spot lesions on which the conidia of C. musae were abundantly produced. This
stage, which is named Mycosphaerella musicola n.sp. [without a Latin diag-
characterized by dark brown or black, amphigenous, erumpent perithecia, so
mature leaf spots, having a short protruding ostiole, a well-defined dark wa
measuring 46.8 to 72 (mean 61.8) µ in diameter. The oblong-clavate asci measure
36 by 8 to 10.8 µ. The bicellular, hyaline, obtuse-ellipsoid ascospores measure
(mean 16.7) by 3 to 4 µ, are slightly wider in the upper than in the lower cell,
show a marked constriction at the septum except when dead. No paraphyses
were noted.
At 70° to 84° F. the most rapid ascospore germination occurred in 20.5 hours
on plain agar. The germ-tubes nearly always grew out from both ends, though not
simultaneously; they never developed from the sides. The robust hyphae, out in line with the long axis, no side branching occurring during the first 24
the growth rate was not above 5 µ per hour. Evidence of ascospore infec-
leaves was obtained experimentally.
Ascospore discharge is not dependent on the presence of surface moisture
spots, and can take place from the lower leaves when their shaded position
formation of dew, and thereby suppresses conidial production. The ascospores
essentially wind-borne, while the conidia are readily removed from the spor
water but not by wind. If there is a large population of heavily spotted leaf
may reach the heart leaves in as great abundance as do the conidia. Naturally
newly opened heart leaf may be as severe as that by conidia.
Ascospores may well reach the heart leaves without coming into contact with
material, so that spraying cannot be relied upon to control this form of infec-
Ascospore production and discharge appear, however, to be purely seasonal;
would therefore seem that control would be assisted by the collection and dis-
dead, spotted leaves before the season of ascospore discharge.
The disease was probably spread comparatively rapidly through Jamaica by
ascospores, as bananas are generally taken to the coast packed with infected
from which ascospores might be more easily disseminated than conidia.
[A popular account of the discovery of the ascigerous stage of C. musae is also
the author in J. Jamaica agric. Soc., xlv, 3, pp. 80-81, 1941.
Banana leaf spot Mycosphaerella musicola, the perfect stage of Cercospora musae Zimm, borrowing, despite the fact that all these character traits refer not to a single image of the narrator, allows for a complex, despite the lack of a single punctuation algorithm.

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