

A NEW RECORD OF *MELIOLA* FROM GARHWAL HIMALAYAS

During the survey of the diseases of fruits and fodder crops of Garhwal Himalayas, authors came across a new species of *Meliola* on the living leaves of *Pyracantha crenulata* M. Roem. synm—*Crataegus crenulata* Roxb., (Rosaceae) at Pauri. A perusal of the literature reveals that the present fungus indicated its resemblances with *M. mahabaleshwari* and *M. grewiae* particularly in the structure of setae and capitate hyphopodia, respectively, although it differs from these in the number of septation in ascospores. Thus the present collection cannot be considered conspecific to any of the known species and merits description as a new species.

Meliola garhwalensis Srivastava & Topal, sp. nov.

Coloniae epiphyllae, distinctae, densae, crustosae, ad 2 mm diam. Hyphae vulgo subrectae, cellulis vulgo 28.8—33.6 × 9.6 μm. Ramificans irregulariter opposita vel alterna. Hyphopodia bi typus. Hyphopodia capitata alterna, recta vel curva, 33.6—43.0 μm longa; Stipitis cellula cylindrica vel cuneata, 14.4—19.2 × 9.6 μm; Cellula terminalis versiformis vel irregulariter globosa, subhastata, saepe curvata, 24.0 × 19.2—24.0 μm. Hyphopodia, mucronata opposita, ampulliformia, stipitis cellula cylindrica vel cuneata, 19.2 × 9.6 μm; cellula terminalis globosa, 24.0 × 14.4 μm. Mycelii setae rectae, septae, obtusae, 120—552 × 15 μm. Perithecia dispersis, verrucosa, 100—192 μm diam. Ascosporis oblonga, pallide brunneae ad valde bruneae, 3-septatae, 52.8—57 × 19.2 μm.

On foliis vivis Pyracantha crenulata M. Roem. (Rosaceae) ex Pauri (Garhwal) mense January, typus IMI 257869.

Meliola garhwalensis Srivastava & Topal, sp. nov.

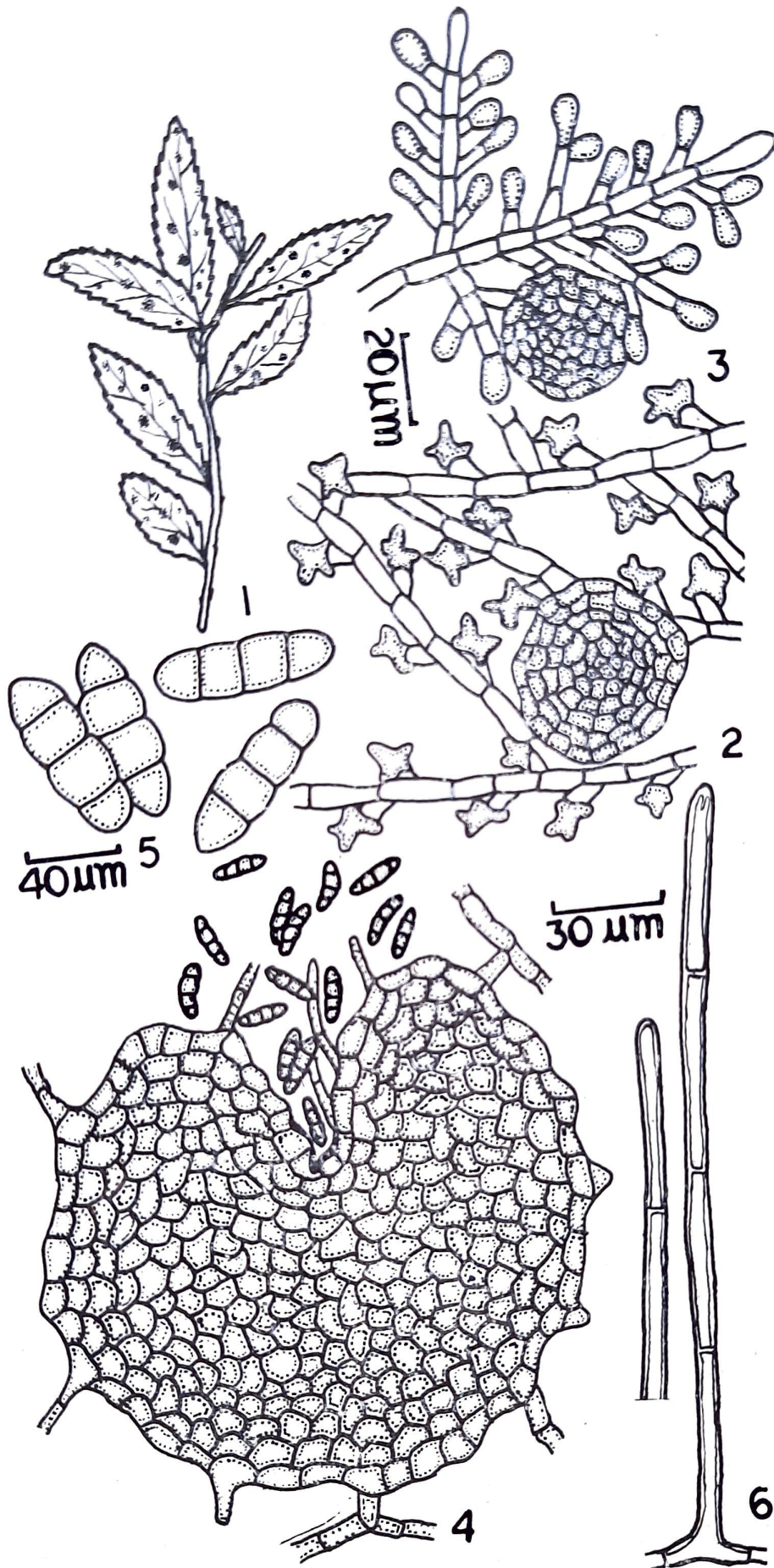
Colonies epiphyllous, separate, dense crustose, up to 2 mm in diameter. Hyphae almost straight, cells mostly 28.8—33.6 × 9.6 μm. Branching irregular, opposite or alternate. Hyphopodia two types; capitate hyphopodia alternate, straight or bent, 33.6—48.0 μm long; stipe cell cylindrical to cuneate, 14.4—19.2 × 9.6 μm; head cell versiform or irregularly globose, sublobate, often bent, 24.0 × 19.2—24.0 μm. Mucronate hyphopodia opposite, ampulliform; stipe cell 19.2 × 9.6 μm in size; head cell globose, 24.0 × 14.4 μm. Mycelial setae straight, multi-septate, obtuse, 120—552 × 15 μm. Perithecia scattered, verrucose, 100—192 μm in diameter. Ascospores oblong, light brown to dark brown, 3-septate, 52.8—57 × 19.2 μm in size.

On living leaves of *Pyracantha crenulata* M. Roem. (Rosaceae) from Pauri (Garhwal), January, 1980. Type IMI 257869.

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Figs. 1-6 : *Meliola garhwalensis* sp. nov. 1—Symptoms on the host. 2—Mycelium with capitate hyphopodia. 3—Mycelium with mucronate hyphopodia. 4—Perithecium with ascospores. 5—Ascospores. 6—Setae.