

INDIAN SARCOSYPHACEOUS FUNGI

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Dedicated to
Prof. Vijay P. Tewari (Guruji)
who initiated the authors
into the realms of
Discomycetes

PREFACE

Study of the Indian Discomycete flora was initiated nearly 40 years ago. In the beginning several groups were simultaneously taken up for indepth study. However, it was gradually realized that covering the entire group will only be a wild dream because of paucity of resources and other constraints. The strategy was, therefore, revised and attention was focused on particular groups. One such group was that of Sarcoscyphaceous fungi, the subject matter of the present publication. These fungi are part of the Discomycetes group of the Phylum Ascomycota. Majority of the BHUPP specimens of these Sarcoscyphaceous fungi were collected in the Kumoun hills and foot hills. These places, earlier parts of the State of Uttar Pradesh, are now in the new State of Uttaranchal. The specimen packets/boxes as well as the main register of Plant Pathology Herbarium (BHUPP) mentions these places as parts of Uttar Pradesh. Even the material distributed to leading world herbaria also shows the same details. It has, therefore, been decided to retain these details as such in this publication also.

The work could not have been completed without the help of the following individuals and institutions. The late Dr. Lekh R. Batra of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, during one of his visits was the first person to moot the idea of this publication. He also handed over his personal files of a large number of fungi of the group. Words will not suffice to acknowledge his help and inspiration. The Head Department of Mycology and Plant Pathology owes our gratitude for providing the lab facilities. Prof. K.P. Singh and Prof. J.S. Srivastava of the department were instrumental in coaxing the senior

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