

# Seed-borne pathogens

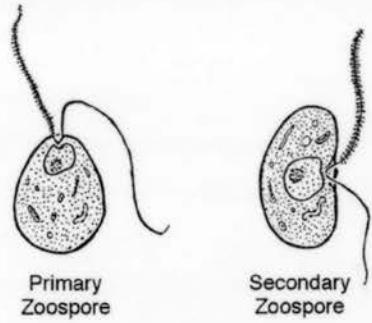
## Fungi

# Oomycota

- Fungus-like organisms
- Were classified as fungi – now in Kingdom Protista
- Algae in Kingdom Protista
- Cell wall – cellulose
- Fungus cell wall mostly chitin
- Nuclear status = 2N (diploid)
- Fungi nuclear status = 1N (haploid)

# Oomycota

## Oomycetes



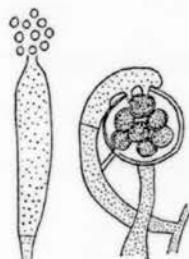
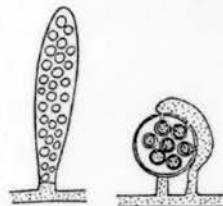
Primary  
Zoospore

Secondary  
Zoospore

- Asexual reproduction - zoospores
- Zoospores - biflagellate; 1 whiplash; 1 tinsel
- Sexual reproduction - oogamous - meiosis in gametangia
- Gametangia - oogonia; antheridia
- Sexual spore = thick-walled oospore
- Thallus - 2n; Hyphae - coenocytic
- Cell wall =  $\beta$ 1-3 /  $\beta$ 1-6 glucans & cellulose
- Mitochondria cristae - tubular

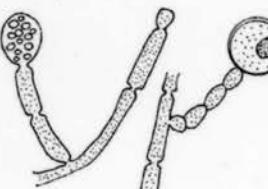
### Saprolegniales

- Water Molds
- Freshwater/soil
- Saprobic - most
- Parasitic - animals
- Branched mycelium
- Zoosporangia - cylindrical
- Zoospores - diplanetic
- Sexual Reproduction
  - Oospores/oogonium = several
- *Achlya*
- *Aphanomyces*
  - Monomorphic, monoplanetic
  - Root rot of peas
- *Saprolegnia*
  - Dimorphic; diplanetic



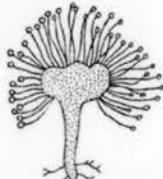
### Leptomitales

- Clear freshwater/soil
- Saprobites
- Hyphae
  - Constrictions
  - Cellulin granules
- No vesicles
- Oogonia thin-walled
  - No periplasm
- *Leptomitus*
- *Plerogone*



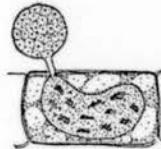
### Rhipidiales

- Inhabit stagnant water
- Saprobites
- Hyphae
  - Facultative anaerobes
  - Fermentative
  - No mitochondria
  - Vesicle maybe present
- Oogonia
  - One oospore
  - Periplasm
- *Rhipidium*
- *Sapromyces*



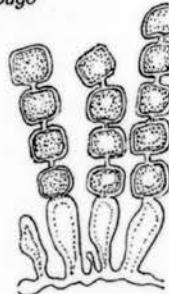
### Lagenidiales

- Parasites - algae, rotifers, nematodes, water molds
- Thallus
  - Endobiotic/monocentric
  - Unbranched
- Gametangial copulation
- *Lagenidium*
- *Olpidiopsis*



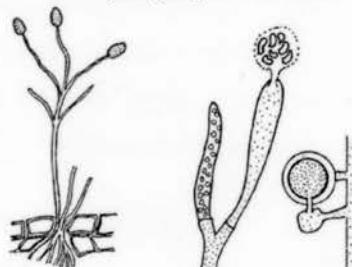
### Peronosporales

- Aquatic, amphibious, terrestrial habitats
- Mycelium
  - Well-developed - branched
  - Haustoria in some species
- Asexual Reproduction
  - Zoospores - kidney-shaped (secondary)
- Sexual Reproduction
  - Oogonia - globose; oosphere
  - Fertilization tube



### Pythiaceae

- Saprobites - water/soil
- Pathogens - herb./woody plants
- Mycelium well-developed
- Sporangiophore - indeter. growth
- *Pythium*
  - Damping off disease
  - Sporangial germ. - vesicle
- *Phytophthora*
  - Late blight of potatoes
  - Sporangial germ. - no vesicle



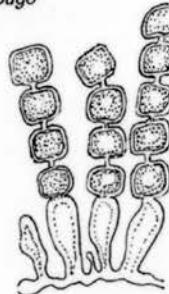
### Peronosporaceae

- Downy mildews
- Obligate parasites - plants
- Sporangiophore
  - Branched
  - Determinate growth
- Sporangia - wind-disseminated
- *Peronospora*
- *Bremia*
- *Sclerospora*
- *Plasmopara*



### Albuginaceae

- White Rusts
- Obligate parasites - plants
- Sporangiophore
  - Unbranched
  - Club-shaped
- Sporangia - prod in chains
  - Wind-dispersed
- *Albugo*



### Classification

- Placed in Kingdom Stramenopila
- ~ 65 Genera; ~ 500-800 Species
- Placement...
  - Based on ultrastructure of flagella
  - Strongly supported by molecular data
- Other closely-related fungal-like phyla:
  - Labyrinthulomycota
  - Hypochytriomycota
- Not closely related to Kingdom Fungi
- Within lineage of brown algae, diatoms







Downy mildew of soybean  
*Peronospora manshurica*

# Zygomycota

- Sexual spore is a zygospor
- Hyphae are coenocytic
- Asexual sporangiospores, formed within a sporangium
- Trend is from many-spored to monospored sporangia
- Fast-growing saprophytes, some insect and plant pathogens

# Zygomycota



- Mycelium/ hyphae - coenocytic
- Produce resting/sexual spores = zygosporangia
- Cell walls - chitin, chitosan, polygalacturonic acid

## Zygomycetes

- Common saprobes of soil, dung, litter
- Asexual spores
  - Sporangiiospores (Ss) borne in sporangia on sporangiophores
  - Conidia

## Trichomycetes

- Obligate symbionts of arthropods
  - Attached by holdfast to host's
    - lining of foregut/midgut/hindgut
    - exoskeleton
- Thallus - simple/branched
- Asexual reproduction
  - Sporangiiospores (Ss)
  - Trichospores (Ts)
  - Arthrospheres
  - Amoeboid cells/cystospores (Cs)
- Sexual = zygosporangia in some

## Harpellales

- Ts prod. exogenously w/basal appendages
- Gut lining - aquatic insect larvae
- Zygosporangia - biconical
- Harpella - *Smilium*



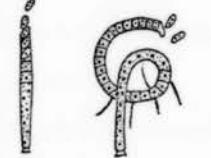
## Asellariales

- Thallus branched/septate
- Arthrospheres
- Sexual repro - unknown
- Asellaria



## Eccrinales

- Thallus coenocytic
  - Unbranched at base
  - Ss prod. basipetally
- Enterobryus*



## Amoebidales

- Thallus unbranched/coenocytic
- Thallus converts to sporangium
- Protoplast prod amoeboid cells/Ss
- Amoeboid cells encyst form Cs
- Cell walls - no chitin
- Amoebidium*

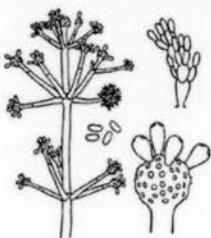


## Entomophthorales

- Insect pathogens
- Saprobites - soil, dung
- Parasites of algae, ferns, invertebrates, mammals
- Mycelium not extensive
- Asexual structures
  - Undifferentiated
  - Spores = conidia
- Forcible spore discharge
- Distinguished by cell charac.
  - Nuclei size
  - Condensed chromatin
- Ballocephala*
- Compleutoria*
- Conidiobolus*
- Neozygites*
- Entomophthora*

## Dimargaritales

- Haustorial mycoparasites
- 2-spored merosporangia
- Septate hyphae - perforate
- Spinalia*
- Dimargaris*



## Mucorales

- Saprobites & parasites
- Soil, dung, plants, litter
- Human/plant pathogens
- Mycoparasites
- Extensive mycelium
- Dimorphism common
- Rhizoids & stolons
- Heterothallism
- Storage rot - Peaches & tomatoes
- Mucor*
- Rhizomucor*
- Pilobolus*
- Rhizopus*
- Phycomyces*
- Gilbertella*
- Mycotypha*
- Syncephalastrum*
- Cunninghamella*



## Endogonales

- Ecotomycorrhizae
- Saprobites - soil, peat, wood
- Sporocarps - zygosporangia
- Sporangia - unknown
- Endogone*
- Sclerogone*



## Gloiales

- Arbuscular mycorrhizae
- Form arbuscules
- Some form vesicles (VAM)
- Asexual spores only
- Glomus*
- Sclerocystis*
- Acaulospora*
- Entrophospora*
- Gigaspora*
- Scutellospora*



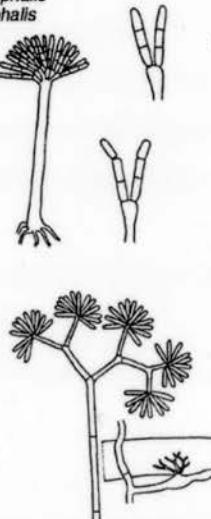
## Kickxellales

- Saprobites soil, dung
- Mycoparasites
- Extensive hyphae
- Septal plug - perforate
- Sporocladia
- 1-spored merosporangia
- Kickxella*
- Coemansia*



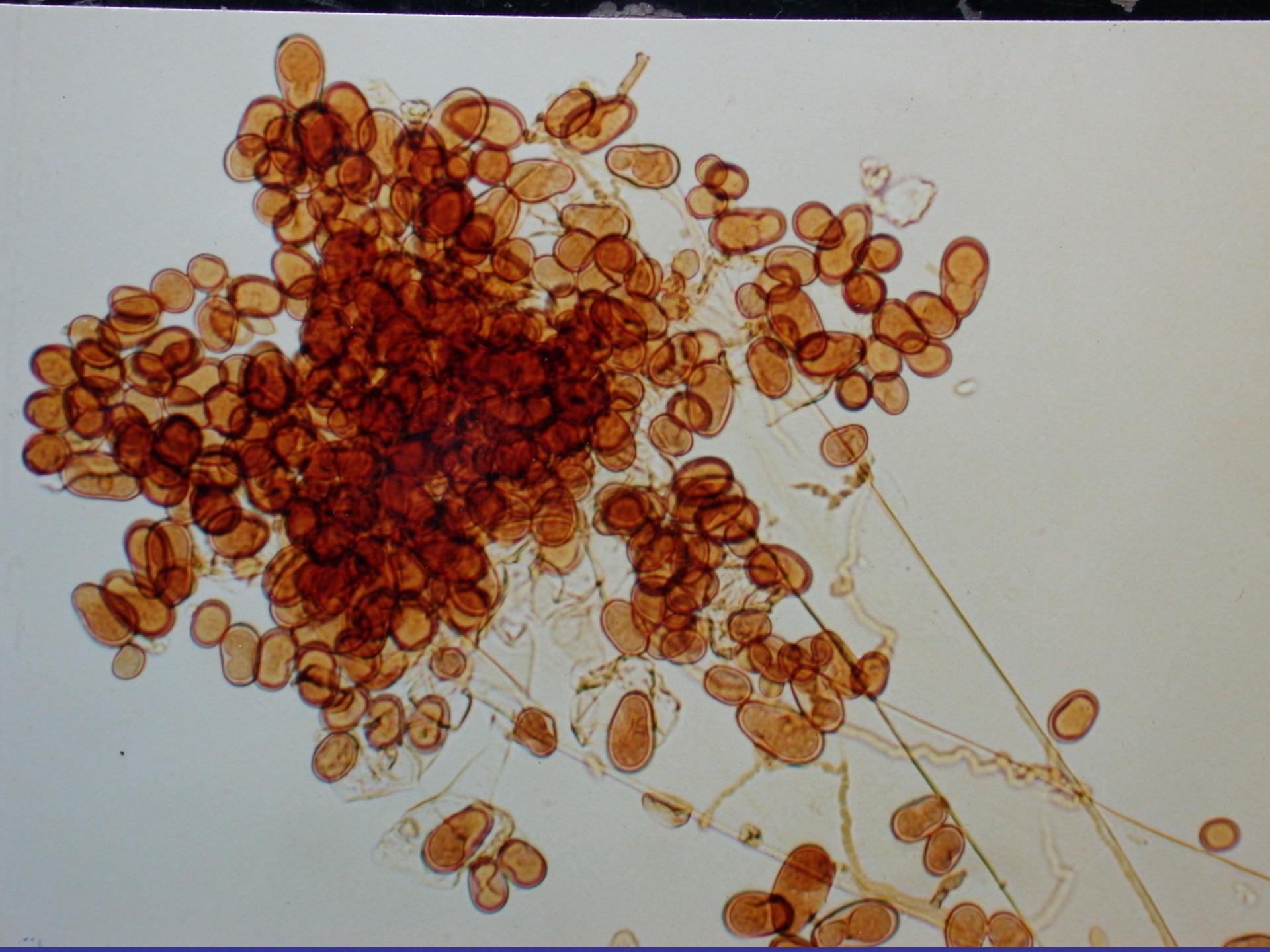
## Zoopagales

- Nematode-trappers
- Parasites/haustorial predators of
  - Amoebeae
  - Nematodes
  - Rotifers
  - Fungi
- Animal symbionts
- Amoebaphilus*
- Cochlonema*
- Helicocephalum*
- Zoophagus*
- Stylopage*
- Piptocephalids*
- Syncephalids*









# Ascomycota

- Sexual spores (ascospores) formed within an ascus
- Dikaryon restricted to ascoma
- Vegetative nuclei haploid, cells heterokaryotic
- Over 40,000 named species

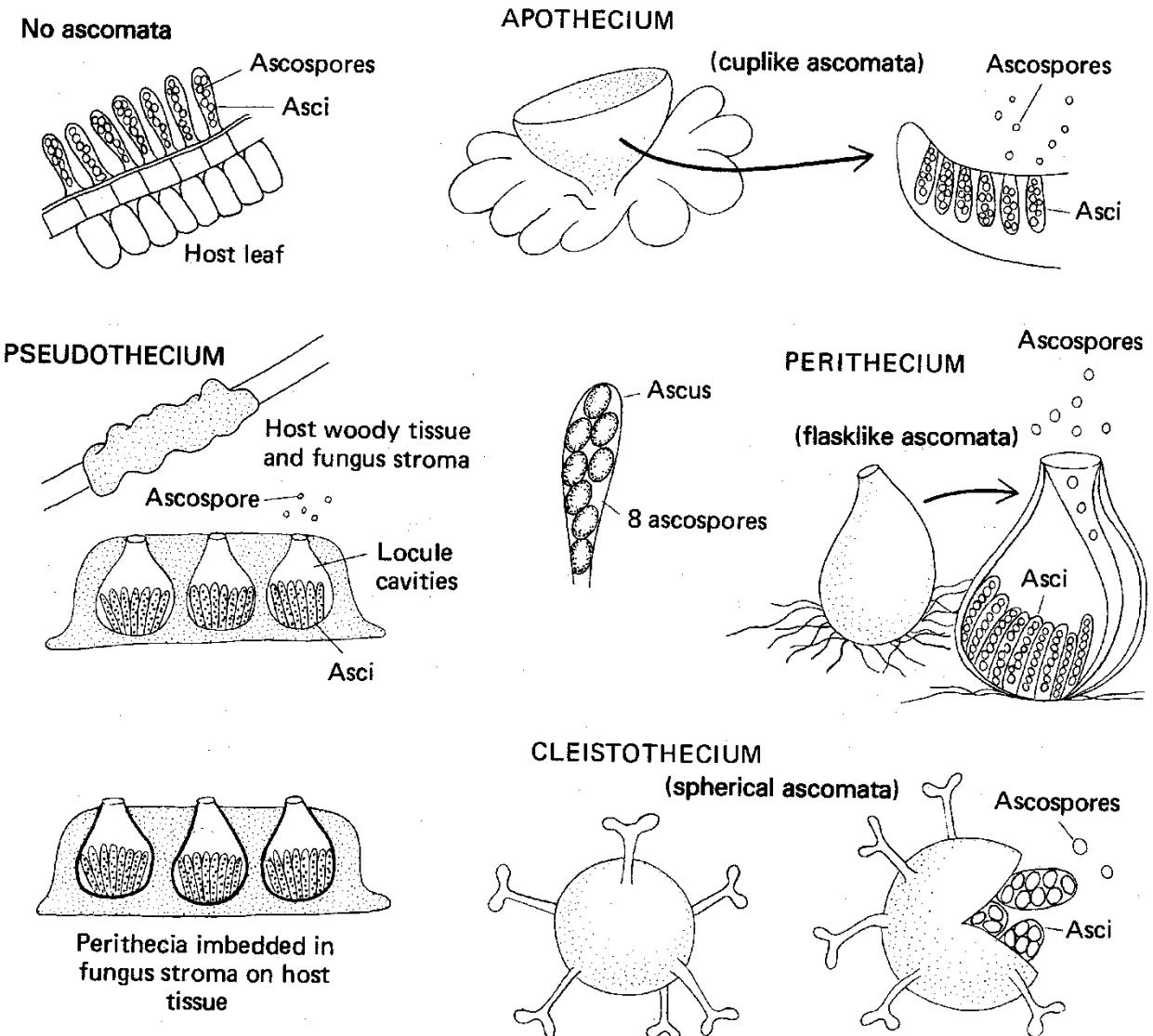
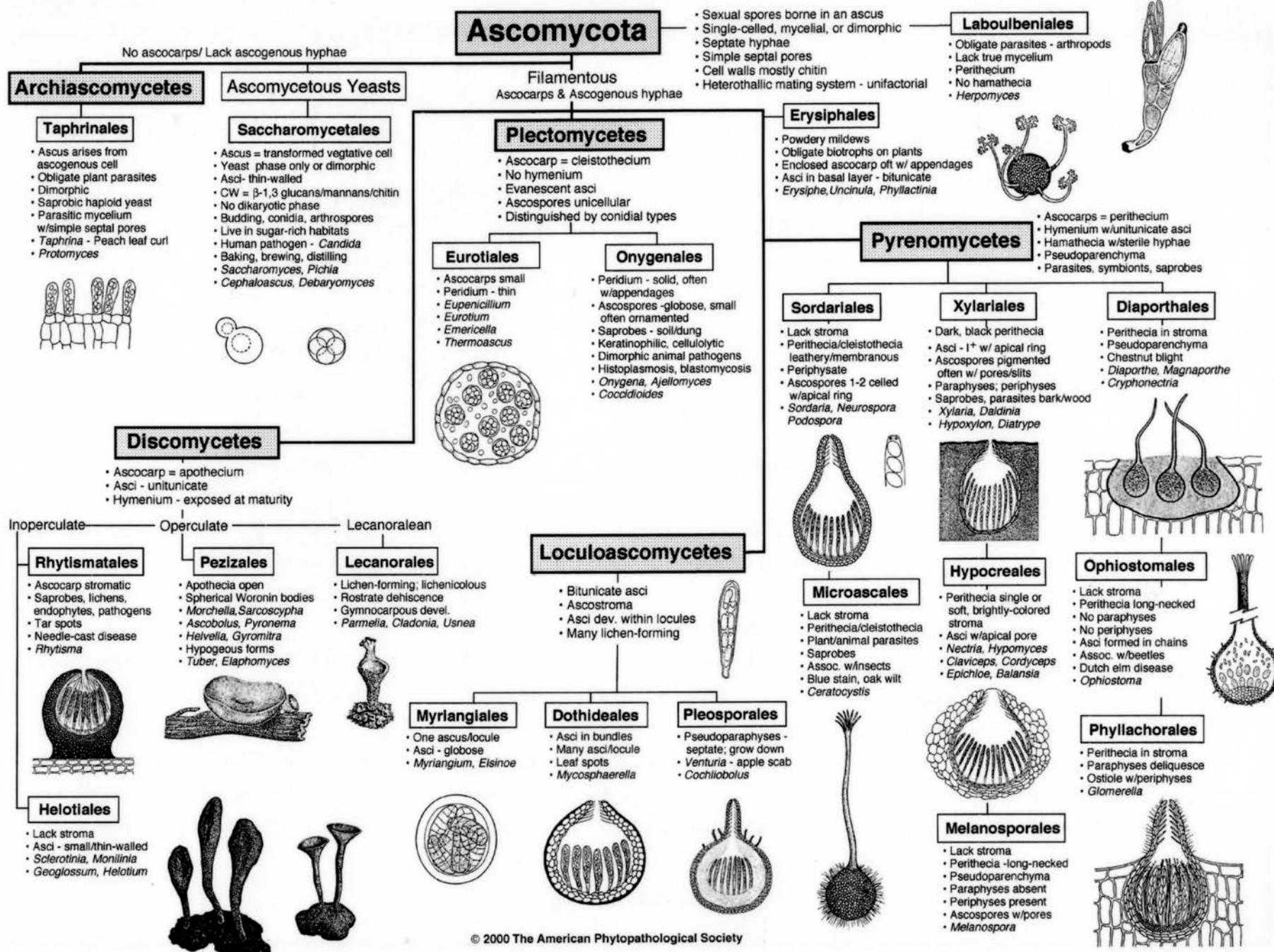


Figure 8-9 Ascomycotina reproductive structures.

# Ascomycota



*Septoria nodorum*



# Non sexual spore forming Ascomycetes

- Most are Ascomycotina that lost sexual stage
- Various mechanisms generate genetic diversity
- Rely on conidia for dispersal
- Anamorph Class Hyphomycetes have exposed conidiophores
- Anamorph Class Coelomycetes have enclosed conidiophores

## Saccardoan System

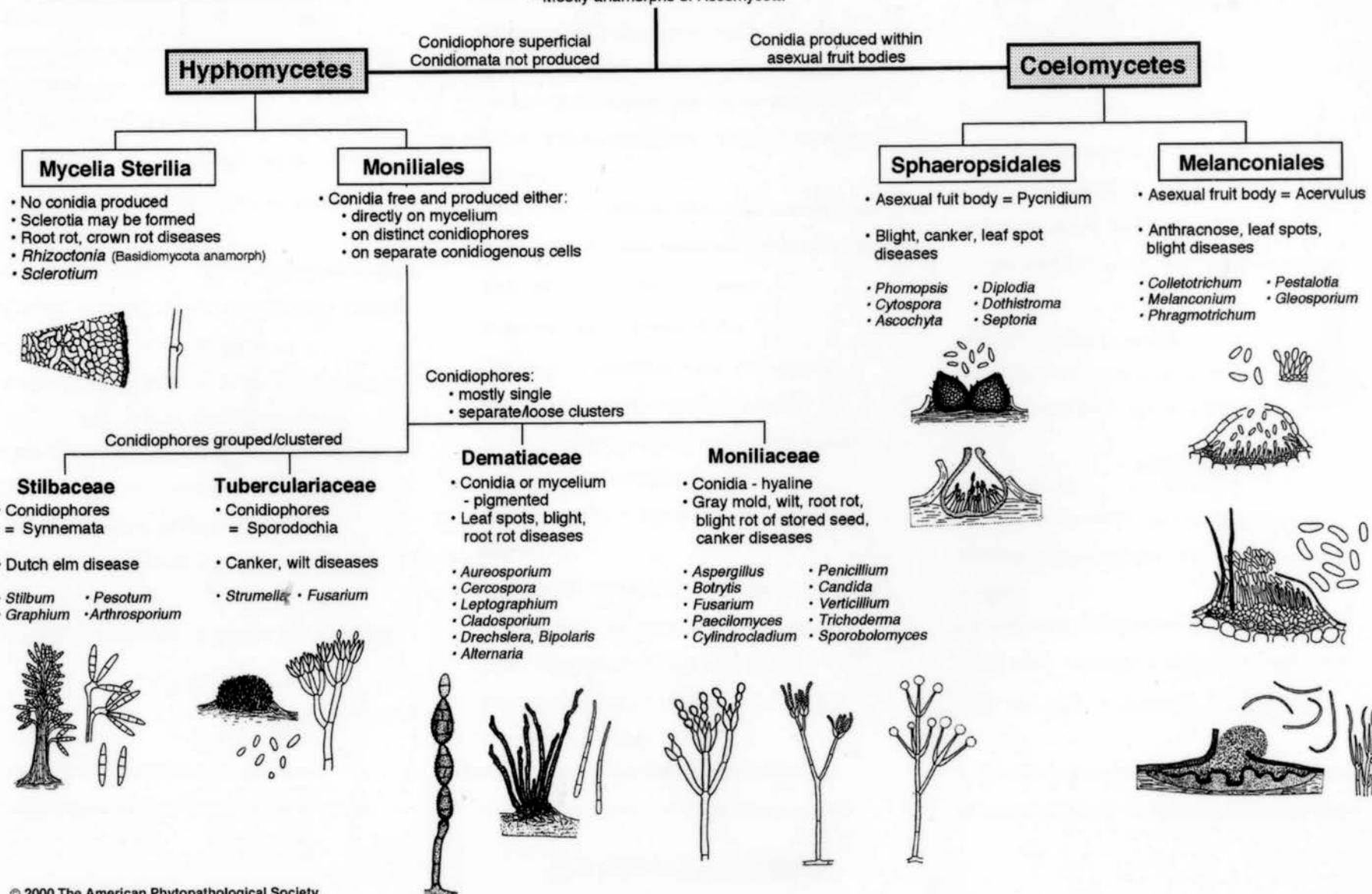
Based primarily on:

- Conidiophore position - free, or within pycnidia or acervuli
- Conidium and conidiophore pigmentation and morphology

## Non sexual forming Ascomycetes

- Imperfect fungi
- Hyphae -- well-developed & septate
- Asexual spore = conidium
- Mostly anamorphs of Ascomycota

Due to its artificial nature, the formal taxonomic hierarchy shown below has been discontinued. It is included here because of its presence in the literature and it remains an effective way to organize and learn these fungi.



Cercospora leaf spot





Anthracnose sweet pepper



# Chilli anthracnose



**Chilli anthracnose**



Anthracnose of  
Vegetable soybean

*Colletotrichum capsici*





Alternaria leaf spot



Alternaria leaf spot



*Alternaria brassicicola*



Alternaria leaf spot



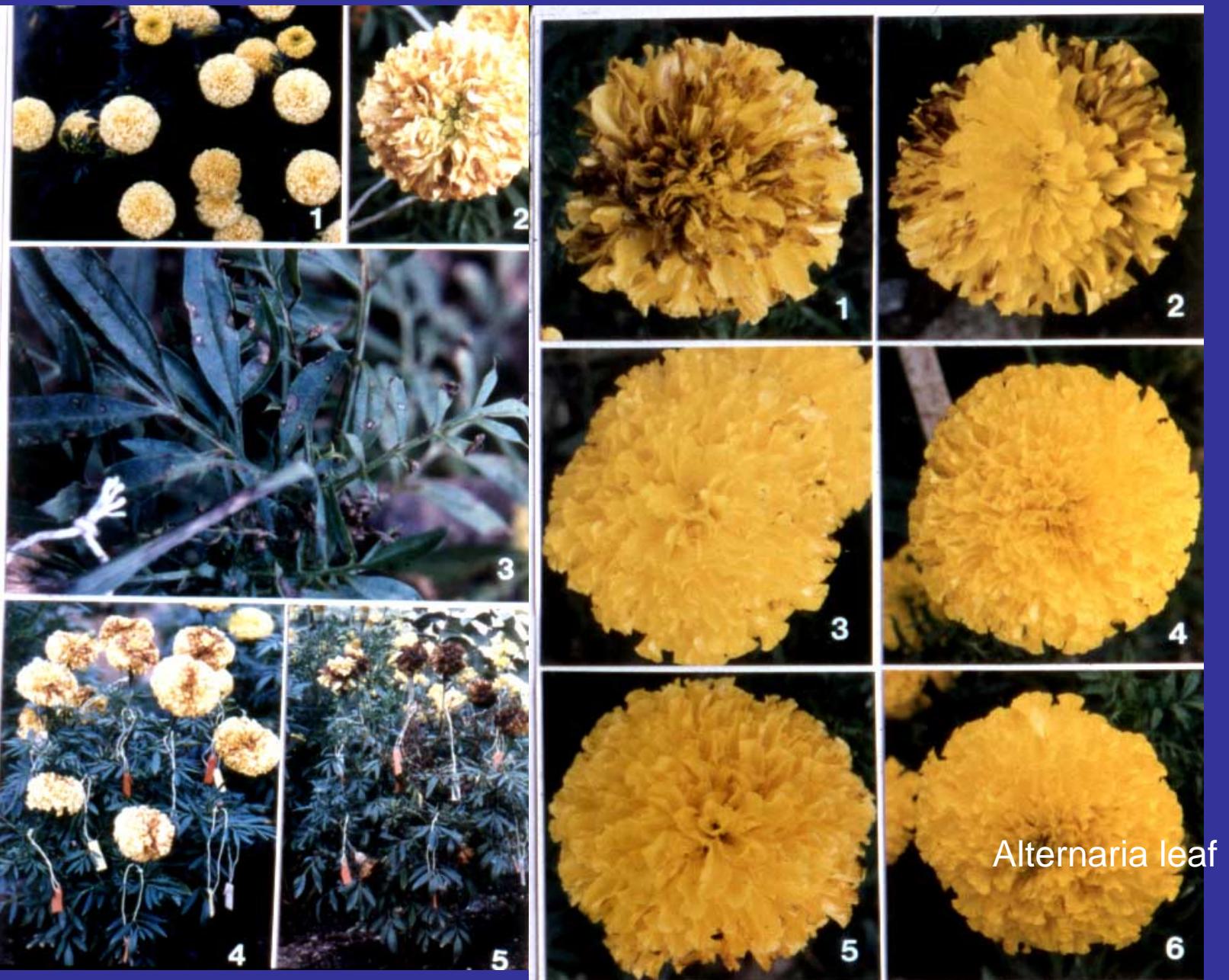
Alternaria leaf spot



Alternaria leaf spot

A close-up photograph of two pink zinnia flowers. The flower in the foreground shows distinct brown spots on its petals, which is a characteristic symptom of Alternaria leaf spot. The center of the flower is yellow, and the leaves in the background are also visible.

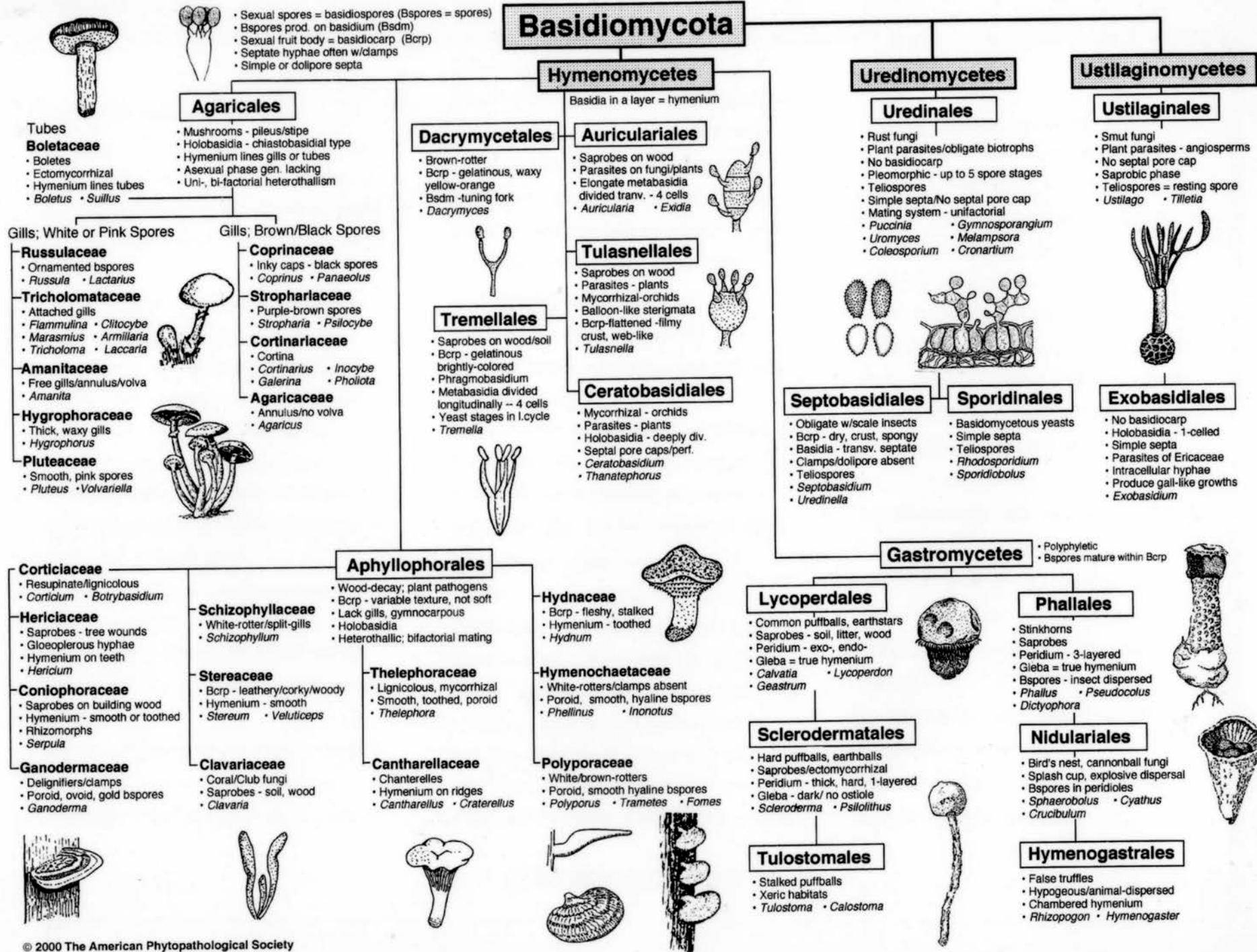
Alternaria leaf spot



# Basidiomycota

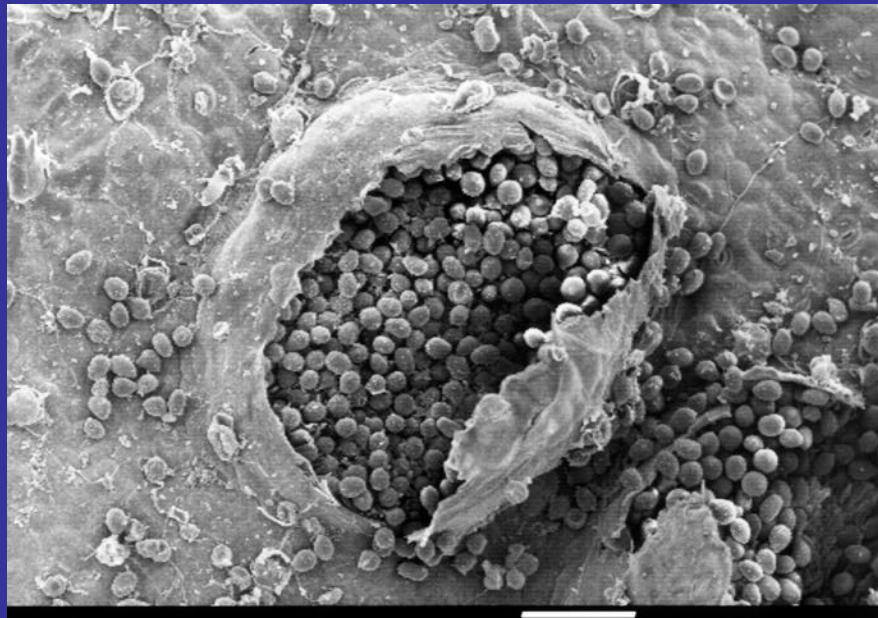
- Sexual spore (basidiospore) formed on the basidium
- Vegetative nuclei are haploid, cells are dikaryotic
- Classification based on structure of the basidium:
  - septate or non-septate

# Basidiomycota





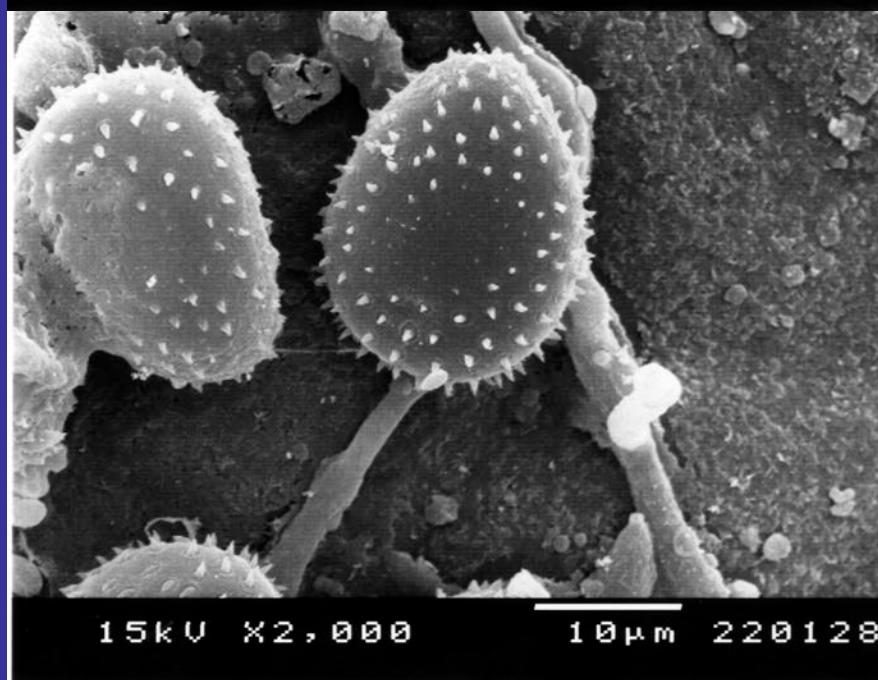
Pastule of *Uromyces* sp..



15kV X150

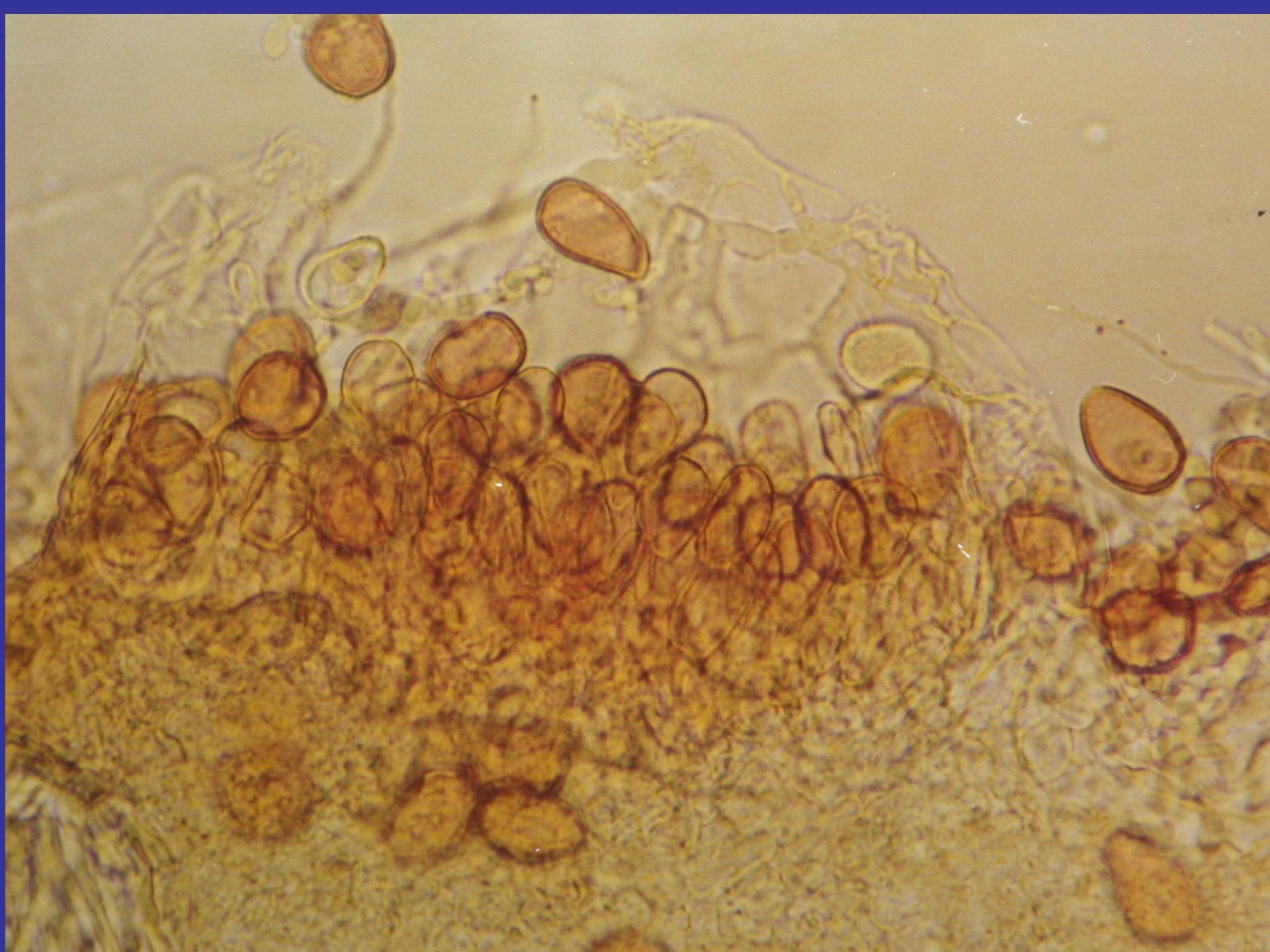
100µm 220126

Urediospore



15kV X2,000

10µm 220128



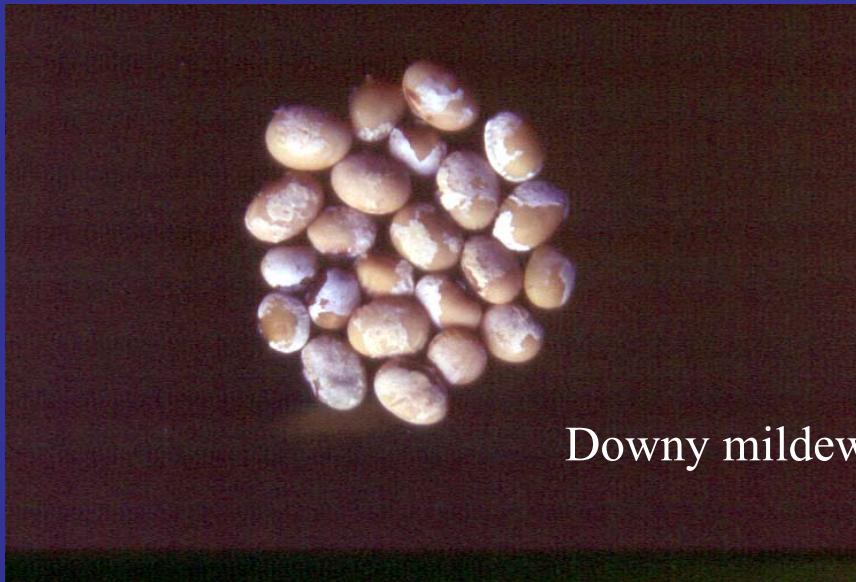
Covered smut



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## **Detection of seed borne fungi**

- dry seed examination
- blotter method
- agar method
- seed symptom test & growing-on test
- embryo extract method

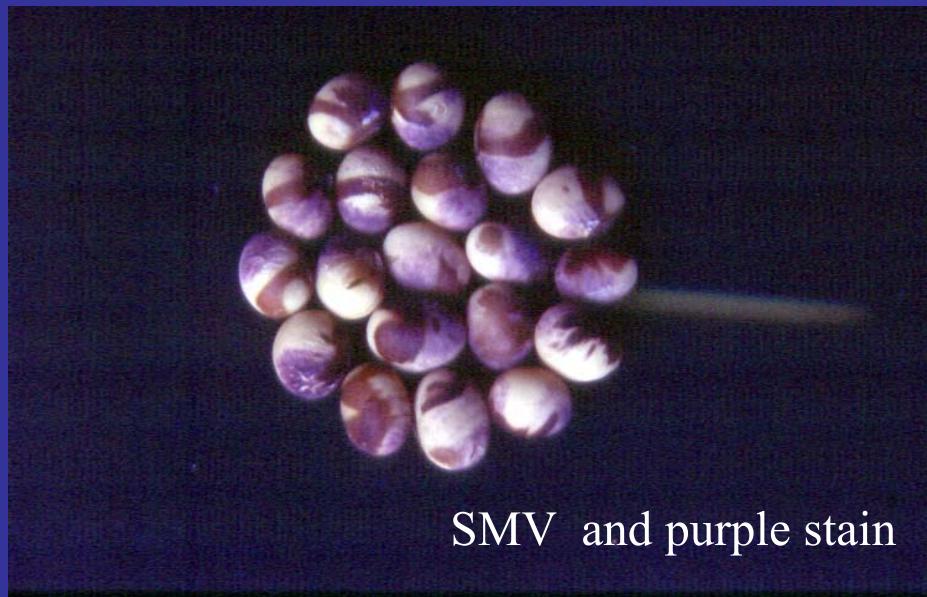


Downy mildew

## Dry seed examination

Seed discoloration

SMV

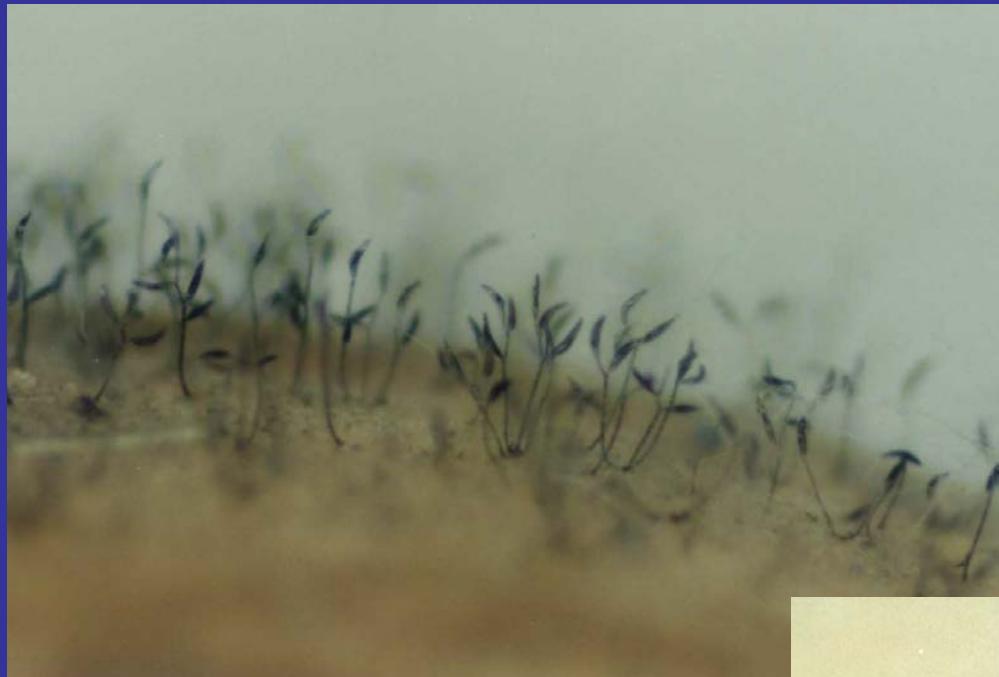


SMV and purple stain



## Blotter method



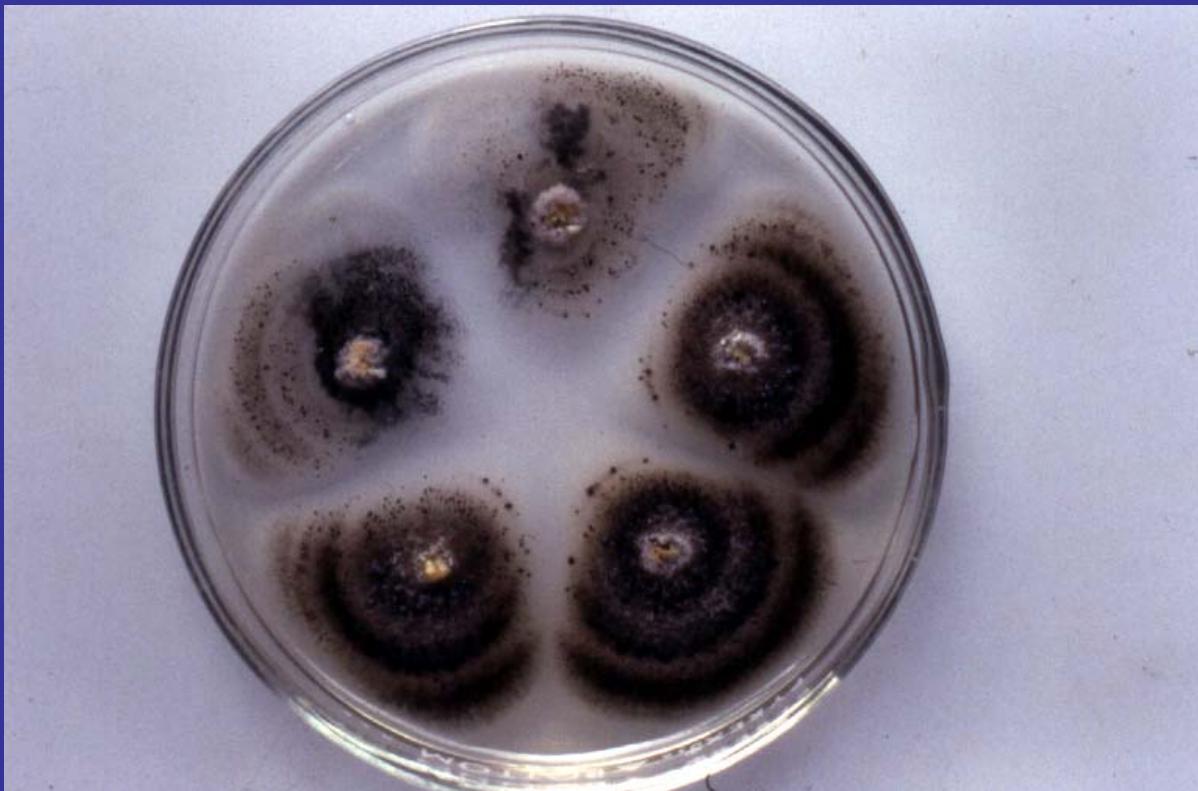


◀ *Bipolaris oryzae*

*Cercospora kikuchii* ➔



# Agar method



*Colletotrichum capsici*

# Seedling symptom test





Seedling symptom test  
*Alternaria zinniae*



*Septoria tritici*





Seedling symptom test  
*Ascochyta pinodes*



Growing-on test

Loose smut of barley

# Embryo extract method





*Colletotrichum capsici*

A microscopic image showing a dense cluster of dark, elongated, hair-like structures, likely conidiophores or hyphae, extending upwards from a darker, more uniform mass at the base. The background is a light, off-white color.

*Alternaria zinniae*