Occurrence of *Paecilomyces* spp. in Containers of Anatomic Pieces

Presencia de *Paecilomyces* spp. en Contenedores de Piezas Anatómicas

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SUMMARY: Species of hyphomycete genus *Paecilomyces* spp. inhabitants of a wide variety of environmental niches, causing economic damage and mycosis in animals and humans. Since 2000, was perceived the occurrence of *Paecilomyces* spp. in containers of anatomic pieces in the hall of anatomy from the Pernambuco Federal Rural University, Brazil. Its is injuring anatomic pieces and putting in risk the health the people which work in the place. Studies have been done to solve this problem.

KEY WORDS: Anatomy; *Paecilomyces* spp; Containers pieces.

Species of the hyphomycete genus *Paecilomyces* are common inhabitants of a wide variety of environmental niches such as in soil and decaying organic material (Samson, 1974 and Samson *et al.*, 1995). Some are occasionally found as agents of human and animal disease, particularly *Paecilomyces lilacinus* (Thom, 1932) Samson and *P. variotti* Bain. (Castro *et al.*, 1990).

The systemic mycoses as well as other mycoses have in common an inanimate reservoir. Like other saprophytic fungi, the *Paecilomyces* spp. may be found in clinical materials without having etiologic significance (Jang *et al.*, 1971).

The genus *Paecilomyces* was described by Bainier, in 1907 as one only species *P. variotti* (Brown & Smith, 1957). Although *P. variotti* are often considered as saprophytic fungi, may cause pathogenies named paecilomycosis. Many cases have already been described causing endocarditis (Silver *et al.*, 1971), endocarditis by cardiac surgery infection (Jang *et al.*, 1971), endocarditis by cardiac surgery infection (Jang *et al.*, 1971), and Uys *et al.*, 1963), systemic micosis in dogs (Jang *et al.*), cerebrospinal fluid shunt in a patient with cancer (Fagerburg *et al.*, 1981), patient whose was lung transplant submitted (Lee *et al.*, 2002), infection of the paranasal sinuses of a child eight years old (Nayak *et al.*, 2000), progressive cutaneous hyalohyphomycosis in a patient submitted for chemotherapy (Safdar, 2002), besides cases prosthetics introductions and imunossupression as pneumonia, peritonitis, fungemia, sinusitis, endophthalmitis, cutaneous infection, and others described by search of Kantarcioglu *et al.* (2003), besides be used as a mycoinsecticide (Cantone & Vandenberg, 1999).

In the world wide, many species of *Paecilomyces*, has been related occurring in a wide variety of substrates. Its main economic importance is due causing damage to many kinds of organic materials (Brown & Smith), being the *Paecilomyces variotti* species, specially as a contaminant of foods and raw materials (Wheeler & Hocking, 1988), fruits in markets (Brown & Smith; Williamson, 1923), destain in wood of paper factoring (Brown & Smith; Rennerfelt 1937), cotton wire (Brown & Smith), spots in jute (Brown & Smith; Macmillan & Basu, 1947 and Basu, 1948a,b), leather boots army storage (Brown & Smith; Sopp, 1912) and bronzed spots in parchment (Brown & Smith), besides be found colonising media with arsenic contents (Thom & Raper, 1932).

Facing these data about a high plasticity environmental fungi and who bring together different substrates, besides its capacity of cause pathogenies to the human and other animals, we are communicating the occurrence of *Paecilomyces* spp. in containers of anatomic piece in the hall of anatomy of the Animal Physiology and Morphology Department (DMFA) from the Pernambuco Federal Rural University (UFRPE), Brazil.

The occurrence has been perceived since 2000, and get attention for colonising the opened or shunted containers full of formaldeid, wich it form a superficial film up whole container, that according to technicians has a concentration of 10% of the total content, contrasting with papers that mention the capacity of this fungi colonise substrate with a formaldeid concentration of 2%.

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Thereby we are initiating special studies about the genus *Paecilomyces* biology, searching steps and procedures to solve the problem. Besides this fungi, injuring anatomic pieces, represents a risk to technicians health, monitors,

professors and pupils that use the place to practice classes.

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RESUMEN: Especies de *Hyphomycete* genus *Paecilomyces* habitantes de una gran variedad de nichos medioambientales, son causantes de daño económico y micosis en animales y humanos. Desde el año 2000, percibimos la aparición de *Paecilomyces spp.* en contenedores de piezas anatómicas en el pabellón de Anatomía de la Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Brasil. Las piezas anatómicas estaban dañándose y poniendo en riesgo la salud de las personas que trabajaban en el lugar. Se han hecho estudios para resolver este problema.

KEY WORDS: Anatomía; *Paecilomyces spp.*; Contenedores de piezas anatómicas.

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