THE OCCURRENCE OF TRICHOPHYTON INDICUM —
RANDHAWA & SANDHU 1963 IN RUMANIAN SOIL.
SOME DATA CONCERNING ITS IMMUNOBIOLOGICAL
PROPERTIES. (PRELIMINARY REPORT)

by

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(with 4 figs.)

In a paper, published in 1963, RANDHAWA & SANDHU described
2 new species of Trichophyton which they recovered from Indian
soil. Considering the high incidence of one of these species in India,
they proposed for it the name of Trichophyton indicum 1). In this
country the incidence of the other species was, on the contrary,
low. Its first description, under the name of Aleurisma sp., is due
to EVOLCEANU & ALTERAŞ (1960), who recovered it from Rumanian
soils and were able to inoculate it, with positive result, in man.
According to CARMICHAEL (Alberta — Canada) this fungus belongs
to the genus Trichophyton. RANDHAWA & SANDHU (1963) named
it Trichophyton evolceanui. A full description of these two species is
given in their paper. As, according to its morphology, T. indicum
seems to be relative of T. evolceanui and as this last fungus seems to
be ubiquitous (it was recovered from soil specimens from different
geographic locations, in Europe and in America) the presence of
T. indicum elsewhere than in India, was to be investigated. In fact,
quite recently, we were able to demonstrate its presence in Rumanian
soil specimens collected from 4 different locations. In Otopeni
(small village in the outskirts of Bucharest) we isolated it from 8
soil specimens (garden soil, vegetable mould, cellar soil). In Gaiseni
(Titu department) we encountered it in 2 out of 10 soil samples
collected from the field. In 2 of 14 sand samples collected from the

1) Recently RANDHAWA & SANDHU (1964) described a new keratinophilic fungus,
isolated from Indian soils, which they named Keratinophyton terreum and which
would be the perfect state of T. indicum. On account of the morphological aspect
of this fungus the position of T. indicum in the genus Trichophyton appears, in
the authors' opinion, to have been weakened.
Fig. 1. *Trichophyton indicum*. Strain isolated from the beach sand — Mamaia. 12 days old culture on Sabouraud’s glucose agar.

Fig. 2. *Trichophyton indicum*. Strain isolated from Otopeni. 25 days old culture on agar plate (downy form).