

## Asexual fruiting bodies of Ascomycotina:

The sub-division Ascomycotina commonly known as 'Sac fungi'. It is a large group of fungi and called the higher fungi because they show considerably more complex structure.

There are three different types of rep<sup>n</sup> in Ascomycotina. They are Vegetative, Asexual and Sexual reproduction.

Vegetative reproduction takes place by budding, fission and fragmentation.

Asexual reproduction takes place by the formation of different types of spore like conidia, oidia, chlamydospore, Blastospore etc.

Fruetification or fruitbody of Asexual reproduction are —

i) Conidia: The special hyphal branch bearing the conidia are known as conidiophore. They produce ~~eggs~~ either singly or in chain on a single conidiophore. Conidiophores vary in length, they may be very short or quite long. Some of them may be organised into definite fruiting bodies. The most common types of such fruiting bodies are — Pycnidium, Acervulus.

Pycnidium: It is a complex structure hollow, globose or flask-shaped structure. It is made up of pseudoparenchymatous fungal tissue which opens by an ostiole. Its inner wall is lined with a layer of conidiogenous cells of various types. Conidia produced

by an pycnidium are called Pycnospores,

Acervulus: An Acervulus is a pseudo-parenchymatous aggregation of hyphae which develop beneath the surface of a host plant. These hyphae eventually form a superficial open, flat, bed of closely packed parallel oriented small conidiophores, conidiophores may also stick together forming complex structure Sporodochium. It may in the form of crest and discs.

In case of Synnema or Coremium, the conidiophore became aggregated to form parallel fascicles of closely appressed hyphae.

Chlamydospore: These are thick-walled spores produced due to the rounding up of the terminal or intercalary hyphal cell.

Oidia: Oidia, also known as arthrospores, are thin-walled hyphal cells - these are formed when hyphae break up into their component cells.

Blastospores: These are budding spores formed by budding. These spores on germination give rise to new individuals.

\* [ For diagram see Studies in Botany (vol 1)  
Page no. 632, 633.  
And Mycology and Plant Pathology  
By P.D. Sarna, Page No. 532 ]