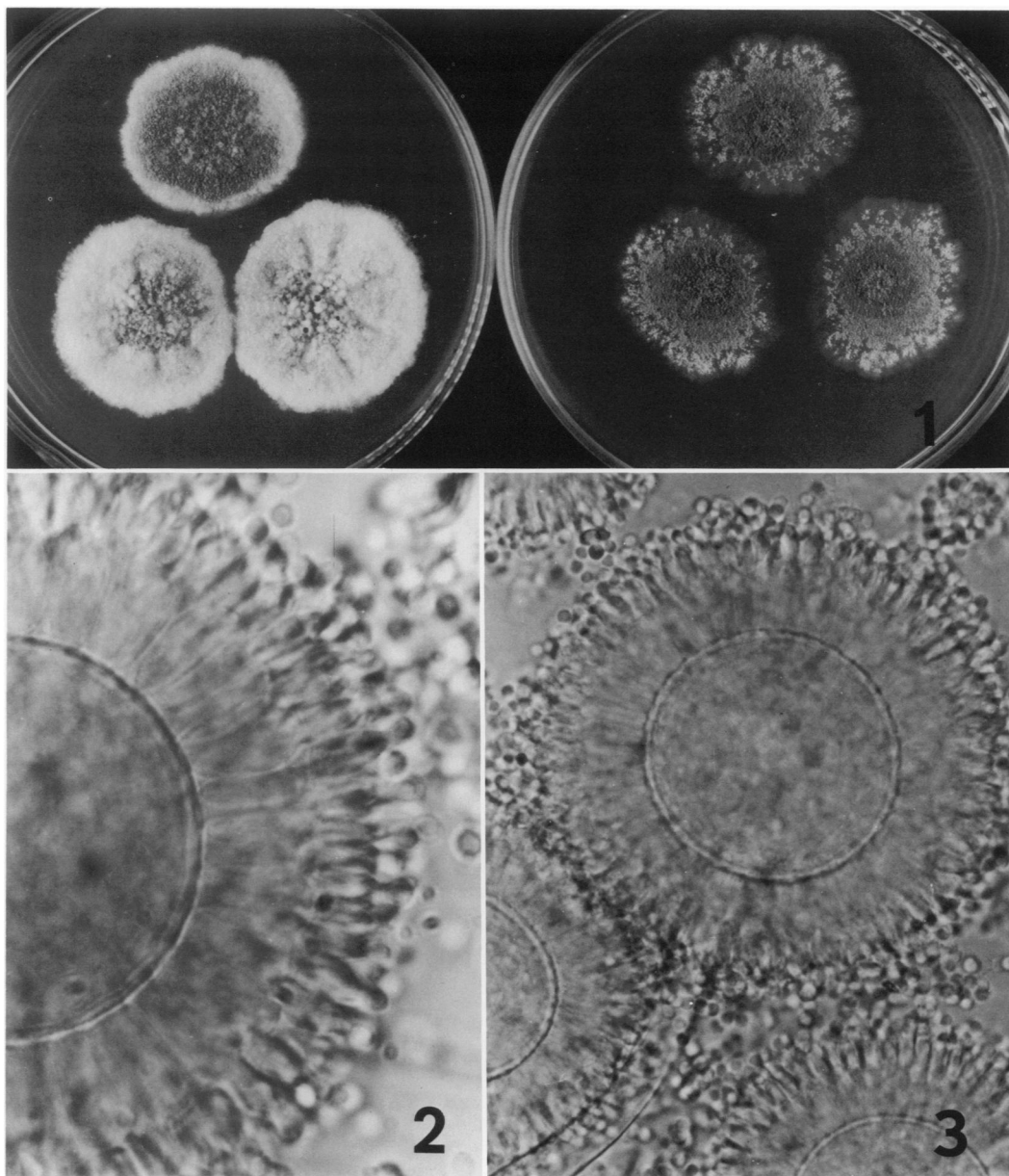




FIGS. 1-3. *Aspergillus sepultus*. 1. Colonies on Czapek's and malt agars, respectively, grown for 18 da at 25 C. 2, 3. Typical globose, thick-walled vesicles with biseriate appendages bearing slightly roughened, globose conidia. 2. $\times 1500$; 3. $\times 500$.

cific epithet *sepultus* means "buried," in recognition of the fact that this species has not been collected in surface soils but may be common in buried loess.

The HOLOTYPE of the species, a dried plate culture of RMF 7602, has been placed in the Cryp-

togamic Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden. Living cultures of RMF 7602 are on deposit at the American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, Maryland (ATCC 58705) at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew, Surrey, England (IMI), and with the Centralbu-

reau voor Schimmelcultures, Baarn, Netherlands (CBS 257.85).

The outstanding features of this species are its (1) large, thick-walled vesicles produced on relatively short conidiophores; (2) conidia uniformly globose, 4 μm in diam, slightly roughened; (3) dark golden color, and (4) slow growth on both Czapek's solution agar and malt agar. *Aspergillus sepultus* resembles *A. campestris* Christensen and *A. sulphureus* (Fres.) Wehmer in length and general appearance of the conidiophore, but differs from *A. sulphureus* in head color and dimensions of the conidia, and from *A. campestris* in vesicle size, morphology of the metulae, and conidium morphology and color. Three other species of the *A. ochraceus* group with large vesicles (> 60 μm diam) are *A. alliaceus* Thom & Church, *A. elegans* Gasperini, and *A. robustus* Christensen & Raper; each of these differs from *A. sepultus* in having much longer conidiophores and in having ovate (*A. alliaceus*) or ellipsoidal (*A. elegans* and *A. robustus*) conidia of a different color.

The dark golden color of the conidia in *A. sepultus* is unique in the *A. ochraceus* group, but it also appears in the *A. wentii* group in *A. thomii* Smith. *Aspergillus thomii* differs from *A. sepultus*, however, in shape of the vesicle, presence of some uniseriate heads, and in having conidia that are ellipsoid when first formed. Additionally, the two species differ in size of vesicles, metulae, phialides, and conidia. Raper and Fennell (3) and

Christensen (1) mention that *A. thomii* is similar to *A. flavus* Link morphologically and culturally, and may be a color mutant of *A. flavus*.

Aspergillus sepultus does not show close affinity to any other species in the *A. ochraceus* group, though it clearly displays all of the attributes of the group as described by Raper and Fennell (3) and Christensen (2). Addition of this species to the group brings the total number of described species in the *A. ochraceus* group to 17 (2, 5, 6).

Key Words: *Aspergillus*, *Aspergillus ochraceus* group, loess, soil fungi.

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