

An Emendation of the Description of Ophiobolus heterostrophus. In my account¹ of *Ophiobolus heterostrophus*, a fungus causing a leafspot of maize in many of the warmer regions of the world, the filamentous ascospores were described in part as being typically four in number and disposed in multiple heterostrophic helicoid arrangement. In connection with experimental work subsequently undertaken to determine the conditions involved in the development of the ascigerous stage, some lots of material were obtained in which each ascus regularly contained eight spores, the larger number of spores entailing a corresponding increase in the volume of the containing structures. In somewhat exceptional instances, also, a reversal in direction of rotation of the spores was observed in the basal portion of the ascus, although such cases were hardly frequent enough to render the specific name of the parasite generally inappropriate. While reversal in direction of rotation may probably best be interpreted as a casual irregularity, the inconstancy in number of ascospores would seem more likely to be related to variation in basic developmental processes. Whatever explanation may be attached to these features as a result of further study, they are pointed out in the present note mainly for the purpose of emending the morphological definition of the species. The emendation is of interest especially because the ascigerous stage under consideration is the only one hitherto recorded as associated with any species of that type of *Helminthosporium* which is distinguished by the bipolar germination of ellipsoidal conidia.—CHARLES DRECHSLER, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

¹ Drechsler, C. Leafspot of maize caused by *Ophiobolus heterostrophus*, n. sp., the ascigerous stage of a *Helminthosporium* exhibiting bipolar germination. Jour. Agr. Res. 31: 701-726. 1925.