

PREPARATION OF TEMPORARY MOUNT

Temporary mount of diseased specimen is frequently required for microscopic examination. Such mounts can be made as follows: 1. Take a clean slide and cover slip. 2. Place a drop of water on the slide. 3. Now add the specimen which needs to be examined. Care must be taken that the specimen should not be of large size. Size of specimen should be in few millimeters so that it could easily settle down in drop of water. 4. In many cases it may be necessary to tease the specimen with dissecting needle so that it spreads uniformly in a thin layer and does not form a clamp which will hamper the observation. 5. Then the cover slip is placed on the slide. To avoid the air bubble in mount it is necessary to place the cover slip carefully. First place the one edge of cover slip in contact with water then with the help of dissecting needle gently and slowly lower the cover slip. 6. Instead of water, lactic phenol can also be used for mount preparation but in this case specimen should be stained with cotton blue.

QUESTION # 1 How will you prepare a temporary slide from culture of a fungus contained in a Petri dish?

QUESTION # 2 What precaution is needed to place the cover slip on the slide?

QUESTION # 3 Which magnification is required for initial observations?