bus graciliter parietatis, 8–12 μ crassis. Clypeus ater, alte evolutus, constans cellulis, crasse parietatis, 20–30 μ crassus. Rostrum 100–130 μ, longum. Asci cylindrici, parietibus crassis, alte incrassati ad apicem, canali alto apicali, tumescentes ad basin, unitunicati in series parietales dispositi, pedicellis brevibus, gelatinizatis ad maturitatem, et menentes liberi in cavitate peritheciali, octospori, hyalini, non-paraphysati, 145.4–170.8 × 16–20 μ. Ascosporae oblongae, fusco-brunneae ad apices, subhyalinae ad medium, inaequaliter bicellulares (super 12 to 14 × 7–8 μ and infer. 4–6 × 4–5 μ), non constrictae ad septa, rotundatae ad utrumque apicem, uniseriatae, 16 to 20 × 4–8 μ, paraphyses nullae. Periphyses plures, filiformes, graciles, hyalinae, sursum directae.

In foliis viventibus *Eugeniae jambolanae* Lam. e fam. Myrtaceae. leg. K. H. ANAHOSUR in Coorg, in statu Mysore in India, die 7 februarii 1967, M.A.C.S. Herb. No. 494, Typus[5].

Zusammenfassung. Ein auf Blättern von *Eugenia jambolana* Lam. in Indien Blattflecken verursachender Ascomycet gehört zu einer neuen Gattung, *Muelleromyces* KAMAT und ANAHOSUR; Typus ist *Muelleromyces indicus* KAMAT und ANAHOSUR. Der Pilz hat dem Blattgewebe eingesenkte, einzelstehende und von einem mächtig entwickelten Klypeus überdeckte Perithecien, verschleimende Asci und ungleich zweizellige, hyaline Ascosporen; Paraphysen fehlen.

K. H. ANAHOSUR

Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science, Poona 4 (India), 2 February 1968.

[5] Acknowledgments. The author is grateful to Prof. M. N. KAMAT for his deep interest and guidance and to Dr. E. MÜLLER of Zürich, Dr. F. PETRAK of Austria and Dr. M. JONES of C.M.I., Kew, for helpful suggestions, and to Dr. Rev. Father H. SANTAPAU for Latin rendering.

Adrenal Weight in Relation to Duration of Pregnancy in the Indian Desert Hare *Lepus nigricollis dayanus* Blanford

In accordance with the classical concept of stress as pronounced by SELYE[1], HERRICK[2] concluded on the basis of the greater mean adrenal weights in pregnant adult female black-tailed jack rabbits, *Lepus californicus melanotis*, compared with those of non-pregnant females, that pregnancy is a stress factor for this species. This author also reported that the lengths of embryos were significantly correlated ($r = 0.434$) with the adrenal weights of the mother jack rabbits indicating that the latter increase with the progress of pregnancy. Increase in adrenal weights associated with pregnancy was also reported in the vole, *Microtus agrestis* (CHITTY and CLARKE[3]), the increase being mainly attributed to the enlargement of the X zone of the adrenal cortex; guinea-pigs (HEWITT and VAN LIERE[4]), rabbit (RANDALL and GRAUBARD[5]) and squirrel (ZALESKY[6]). CHRISTIAN[7] has, however, argued that the increase in relative adrenal weights in woodchuck, *Marmota monax*, during the reproductive season cannot be attributed to reproduction per se, although its effects on behaviour, especially aggressiveness, must contribute to it indirectly.

In view of the lack of information on the adrenal weight response to the state of pregnancy in the Indian desert hare, the adrenal glands were dissected out from both non-pregnant and gravid females and preserved in 10% formaldehyde soon after shooting the animals during 1966. Likewise, the gravid uteri were also preserved and the crown-rump length of the individual embryos was measured subsequently. The preserved adrenals were weighed up to the nearest $^1/_{10}$ mg in a Mettler semi-micro balance.

Adrenal weight of non-pregnant and pregnant hares. The mean paired adrenal weight of adult pregnant hare (33) was significantly (at 5% level) heavier than that of adult non-pregnant hares (18). After adjusting for the unequal body weights of the animals, the difference, however, disappeared ($F < 1$).

Adrenal weight in relation to duration of pregnancy. The correlation between the adrenal weight[x] and the crown-rump length of the embryos[y] which is indicative of the duration of pregnancy was not significant even when the characters were adjusted for unequal body weights[z] ($r_{xy} = +0.1099$, $r_{xy.z} = -0.1214$).

The data presented here clearly shows that (1) pregnancy does not directly influence the weight of adrenals in *Lepus nigricollis dayanus* and that (2) the weights of adrenals are independent of the duration of pregnancy in this lagomorph species. These observations are contrary to the findings of HERRICK[2] and support the views of CHRISTIAN[7] that reproduction plays no direct part in influencing the adrenal weights.

Résumé. La grossesse dans le lièvre, *Lepus nigricollis dayanus* Blanford, n'a pas d'influence directe sur le poid des glandes surrénales. Le poid surrénal n'augmente pas la grossesse.

I. PRAKASH[9] and G. C. TANEJA

Division of Animal Studies, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur (India), 25 March 1968.

[1] H. SELYE, Br. J. exp. Path. *17*, 234 (1936).
[2] E. H. HERRICK, Kansas Univ. Sci. Bull. *140*, 73 (1965).
[3] HELEN CHITTY and J. R. CLARKE, Can. J. Zool. *41*, 1025 (1963).
[4] W. F. HEWITT and E. J. VAN LIERE, Endocrinology *28*, 62 (1941).
[5] L. O. RANDALL and M. GRAUBARD, Am. J. Physiol. *131*, 291 (1940) (as quoted by PARKES[8]).
[6] M. ZALESKY, Anat. Rec. *60*, 291 (1934).
[7] J. J. CHRISTIAN, Endocrinology *71*, 431 (1962).
[8] A. S. PARKES, Physiol. Rev. *25*, 203 (1945).
[9] Thanks are due to the retired Director C. P. BHIMAYA for his keen interest in the work and for providing facilities, and to Dr. P. K. GHOSH, Animal Physiologist, for suggestions.