

# PENICILLIUM

## Preparation of Slide:

- (i) Take some mould from the infected orange with a needle and transfer it on a slide.
- (ii) Add few drops of glycerine and cover it with cover slip, then examine under the microscope.

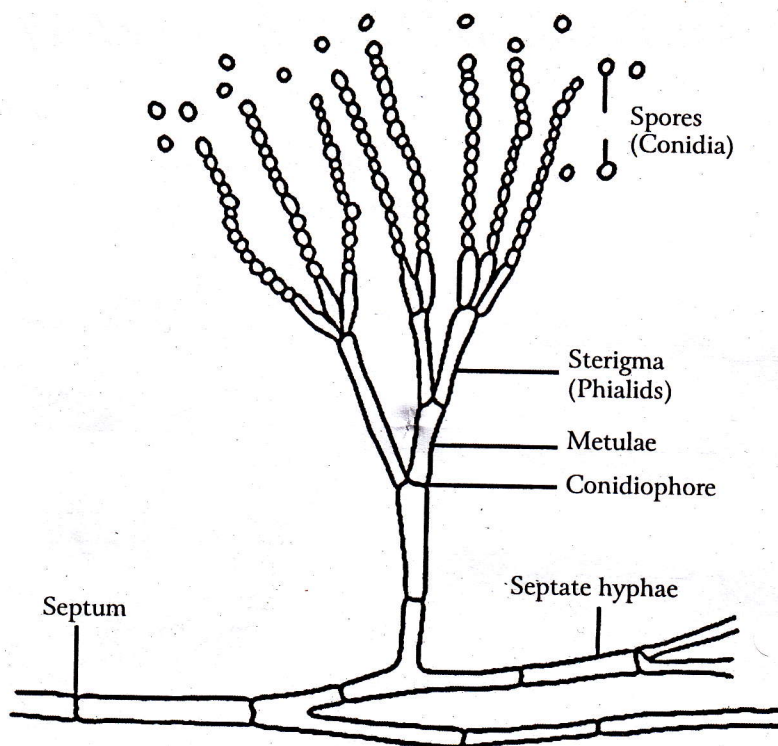


Fig. 15: *Penicillium* – Conidia Formation

## Characters:

1. The *Penicillium* (Blue mould) consists of mycelium. It is branched, consisting of thread like structures, called hyphae.
2. The mycelium is septate. Each cell contains cytoplasm and one nucleus or many nuclei.
3. At the time of reproduction some erect branches arise from mycelium called conidiophores.
4. Each conidiophore produces many branches called metulae.
5. At the tip of each metula bottle shaped structures are produced called sterigmata or phialides. This whole structure is like a brush, called Penicillus.
6. Each sterigma forms a chain of rounded conidia, which are the asexual reproductive bodies.