

About this Issue

The abstracts of papers for the MSA Annual Meeting are included in this issue of *Inoculum* so there are only a few pages of news. The deadline for the next issue is August 1 and I need copy. Think ahead to the upcoming school term, the fall collecting season, important meetings and workshops and send me the news! See the masthead on page 7 for details.

Ellen Farr

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Important Dates

August 1 – Deadline for next
Inoculum.

August 6–10 – MSA Meeting
with AIBS in San Diego, CA

Contributions of Mycological Research to Plant Pathology

by Margaret Tuttle McGrath, Nina Shishkoff,
Thomas Harrington, Bryce Kendrick, Suha Hare,
and Charles Mims

This statement was prepared because of our concern that the value of research in the field of Mycology can easily be taken for granted by plant pathologists. It is important that we address this now while departments are feeling the need to downsize. Many important mycological contributions were described during a recent symposium, *Advances in Mycology and Their Impact on Plant Pathology*, at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Division of the American Phytopathological Society. These are summarized below. Without an understanding of fungi, how can the diseases they cause be managed?

1. Correct identification of fungi. For example, results from years of research on *Armillaria* and on the biocontrol agent *Trichoderma viride* are ambiguous because proper identifications were not made. The name of a fungus is the key to its entire literature: everything we know about it. Therefore, correct identification is of paramount importance.
2. Identification of the causal agents of new or newly introduced diseases.
3. Taxonomy allows prediction of the ecology of fungi, such as host range and life cycle.
4. Knowledge of taxonomy narrows the search for medicinal drugs and fungitoxic compounds.
5. Taxonomists are needed to convert raw data from molecular biologists to a form more useful for plant pathologists (e.g., from bands on gels to comprehensive genetic trees indicating relationships among fungal groups).
6. Understanding of life cycles, in particular anamorph-teleomorph connections. Knowledge of life cycles enables control measures to be directed at the most

vulnerable phase of the cycle. Establishing a connection between anamorph and teleomorph may clarify the role of each in the etiology of a disease-vulnerable phase of the cycle. Establishing a connection between anamorph and teleomorph may clarify the role of each in the etiology of a disease.

7. Understanding of host-pathogen interactions (physical and molecular),

including the nature of resistance, has resulted from mycological research.

8. Understanding of pathogenesis.

9. Knowledge of the roles of fungi in the biosphere has resulted in the realization that fungi can be used as bio-control agents.

10. Mycologists within a Department of Plant Pathology are a valuable re-

source for both research and diagnosis.

Comments and additions are welcome. Send them to Margaret Tuttle McGrath, Long Island Horticultural Research Laboratory, Cornell University, 3059 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY, 11901-1098.

MSA Official Business

Addition to Abstracts

The following abstract was received too late to be included in the Abstracts Supplement.

LEPTOGRAPHIUM PYRINUM IS A MYCANGIAL FUNGUS OF DENDROCTONUS ADJUNCTUS

Diana L. Six and T. D. Paine
Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521 USA

Several species of *Dendroctonus* (Coleoptera: Scolytidae) have structures developed in the integument called mycangia that are specialized for carrying specific symbiotic fungi. The mycangium of *Dendroctonus adjunctus* is located under a callus that surrounds the thorax. The mycangial fungus carried by *D. adjunctus* has not been identified prior to this time. In this study, fungi from mycangia of *D. adjunctus* were isolated and compared

morphologically and genetically with *Leptographium pyrinum* and *Ophios-toma adjuncti*, two species of fungi known to be present in *D. adjunctus* colonized trees. Fungi isolated from *D. adjunctus* mycangia were morphologically and genetically identical to *L. pyrinum*.

Mycology Online

Finding Mycological Information

Remember to check the Smithsonian Natural History Gopher Server (nmnhgoph.si.edu) for copies of *In-oculum*, an up-to-date directory of MSA members and a link to the MSA Bulletin Board. Look on the Botany menu for the "Mycological and Lichenological Information" submenu.

Send news for immediate distribution to the MSA Bulletin Board. Submit news as an e-mail message to msa-news@huh.harvard.edu.

Mycologists Online

Mycologists Online is a world-wide directory of mycologists and liche-

nologists, fungal/lichenological herbaria and/or culture collections, editors of periodicals, officials of national and international organizations, and contact persons of amateur societies accessible by e-mail. An updated edition is posted every 3-4 months. The last edition listed over 650 entries and included addresses of mycologists and lichenologists from 34 countries.

Links to the directory are found on the Biodiversity and Biological Collections Gopher muse.bio.cornell.edu and the World Wide Web Mycology Virtual Library <http://muse.bio.cornell.edu/bio/fungi.html>.

Check the directory and correct or update your address, and/or send new entries to the editor Pavel Lizon at

PL1@cornell.edu or to the co-editor Erast Parmasto at erast@iozb.tartu.ee.

URLs Briefly Noted

<http://www.igc.apc.org/mushroom/welco.html>

<http://www.inf.unitn.it/~mflorian/mycopage.html>

Two mycological pages. One from the Colorado Rocky Mountains. One from Italy.

<http://lycos.cs.cmu.edu>

"The Catalog of the Internet." A site to search for Internet Resources.