Poster Presentation 1

P1-35

Baseline data for generalist and specialist fungi associated with ants, *Rhododendron* species and *Dracaena* species

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Purpose: Thailand being a tropical country has significant undiscovered fungal diversity. In the case of microfungi, the numbers are likely to be higher. This is because there are numerous cryptic species as well as undiscovered genera. In this study, we provide baseline data for the fungi on insects, Dracaena and Rhododendron in order to establish the effects of climate change on their fungal communities.
Methods: Collections from each of the hosts were made throughout Thailand and Yunnan Province, China
Results: To date, we have found 48 fungi on insects including nine species on ants in the genera Aschersonia, Beauveria, Chlorocillium, Cordyceps, Gibellula, Hymenostilbe, Hypocrella, Isaria, Lecanicillium, Ophiocordyceps, Orbiocrella, Paecilomyces, Polycephalomyces, Simplicillium, Sporothrix and Torrubiella. We also found 35 species on Dracaena in the genera Cladosporium, Colletotrichum, Hermatomyces, Ochroconis, Pestalotiopsis, Sarcopodium and Zygosporium. We also collected 25 taxa from Rhododendron including Colletotrichum, Diaporthe, Neopestalotiopsis and Seimatosporium species. In this presentation, we illustrate the morphology of some of the fungi.
Conclusions: The ultimate goal of this study is to show the effects of climate change on fungal communities and establish protocols to solve any resulting potential problems.