

Célia Soares, Manuel Silva, Anabela Martins, Nelson Lima

Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM), CEB-Centre of Biological Engineering, University of Minho, Campus de Gualtar, 4710-057 Braga, Portugal

Introduction

Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM) was founded in 1996 and throughout its years managed to evolve and adapt to the challenges ahead.

The main objective of MUM is to maintain and provide quality and authentic fungal strains for biotechnological and life sciences research as well as acting as a centre for knowledge, information and training in the field of mycology.

MUM is a member of the European Culture Collections Organization (ECCO) and the World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC) and is also registered in WDCM (World Data Centre of Microorganisms) with number 816 and is highly involved in the MIRRI project.

Statements

Vision of MUM

A world in which fungal diversity is preserved and available for all.

Mission

To be a resource centre for fungal biodiversity preservation and information, and create solutions for sustainable development and human well-being.

Quality Policy

The quality policy emerges from the defined Vision for the organization. It is based on encouraging the motivation and involvement of all stakeholders in quality processes with a view to internalising a culture of excellence and applied to all products and services. In this process, ongoing evaluation is seen as an element of continuous improvement that enhances the achievement of the MUM Mission.

Activities

CURRENT SERVICES



- Strain deposit:** MUM has two types of deposit, free and confidential.
- Supply of biological materials:** Biological material can be acquired by purchase or by validation.
- Specialized services:** MUM provides several specialized services such as strain identification, sporulation, inoculation from food matrices, DNA extractions, etc.
- Training courses:** MUM has accumulated knowledge for its activity which can be transferred through training courses and workshops about different subjects.
- Consulting:** MUM has accumulated knowledge that can be profitable for industries and other institutions.
- Research projects:** Applying for external funding for research projects enables the culture researcher to develop its research areas. Research improves the quality of the services.

FUNGAL CULTURE COLLECTION

COLLECTION

- It has over 1000 strains in its e-catalogue
- 279 different species
- Strains belong to 88 different genera

DISTRIBUTION OF ISOLATES

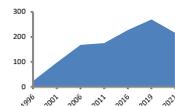
Genus	Number of species	Number of strains
<i>Aspergillus</i>	56	221
<i>Penicillium</i>	55	369
<i>Candida</i>	15	33
<i>Sporothrix</i>	8	49
<i>Fusarium</i>	7	15
Dermatophytes*	8	77
<i>Mucor</i>	6	14
Others	124	243

*Dermatophytes: *Epidemophyton*, *Microsporum*, *Trichophyton*

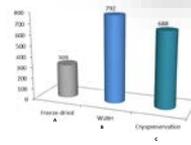
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



EVOLUTION OF STRAIN DEPOSITS



MAIN PRESERVATION METHODS



CERTIFICATION

CERTIFIED SINCE 2011 UNDER ISO STANDARD 9001

With the implementation of the Quality Management System (QMS), MUM became 23rd Culture Collection at international level to become certified and the 1st in Portugal.

MUM has defined 3 processes:

- MATERIAL RECEPTION PROCESS (MRP)
- MATERIAL PRESERVATION PROCESS (MPP)
- MATERIAL SUPPLY PROCESS (MSP)

All biological material arrival is registered. MUM Quality Director has to approve the deposit requests.

The preservation method is chosen according to the characteristics of the strain.

MUM only receives official requests, signed by the institutional or legal representative, as intermediate or end-user.



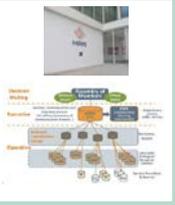
Landmarks

Portuguese microBiological Resource Center Network



- mBRCS Network
 - Same levels of quality
 - Same standards of quality
 - Curated data
 - mBRC holdings as a whole
 - Microbial resources and expertise advertised
 - Same MTAs and regulations
- <https://www.mbrcn.pt/>

MIRRI



MUM was the driving force for University of Minho to host the statutory seat of the pan-European microbial resource research infrastructure (MIRRI). MUM has the coordination of the Portuguese microBiological Resource Centre Network (Pt-mBRCN)/MIRRI-PT as Portuguese node for MIRRI.

Image and Future Challenges

Celebrating a new Image

Logotype



Webpage



Future Challenges

MUM was funded to be the Portuguese authority for deposit of microorganisms for the purposes of patent procedures under the Budapest Treaty.

Acknowledgments

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