

available at www.sciencedirect.com

SciVerse ScienceDirect

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/funeco



Commentary

Monitoring fungal biodiversity — towards an integrated approach

SUMMARY

Biodiversity information databases and platforms have seen considerable progress in recent years. They have a high potential in conservation science in general, but may be even more revolutionary in relation to poorly known species groups such as fungi, whose practical conservation work has been jeopardised by scattered and poorly controlled information. We review the tradition of collecting information on species occurrences in mycology and discuss the characteristics of the present fungal biodiversity information databases. With a special focus on population trend monitoring of fruit body producing macrofungi, we emphasise several unrealised opportunities of these databases and point out some relevant future directions for them. As especially important, we see the more effective utilisation of citizen science effort and combining the traditional database information with the one derived with modern molecular methods. Also, we emphasise the importance of information on collection effort, including the use of GPS based tracking data, along with the observations.

Introduction

Practical conservation of biodiversity depends on reliable information on what kind, how much and where the diversity is. In many cases the basic level of biodiversity information is observations on species occurrences over time and space. Such data form the basis in many conservation priority approaches, e.g. in reserve selection procedures (Pressey et al. 1993) and red listing (Dahlberg & Mueller 2011), but is also crucial in more basic research on macroecological patterns and global change.

Unfortunately, data on species occurrences is not always accurate, and this may seriously undermine conservation priorities and scientific conclusions (Molina et al. 2011; Jetz et al. 2012). Accurate recording of species occurrence over large geographical areas is time consuming and therefore costly if performed by professional specialists. In practice funding for surveying species is very unequally distributed, and targeted towards organism groups that are generally considered spectacular, cute or intelligent. This means that

fungi are highly underrepresented in the conservation literature (Heilmann-Clausen & Vesterholt 2008).

Within macrofungi (i.e. the fungi with visible fruit bodies), observations of species have traditionally been obtained from more or less random walks by experienced amateur mycologists. Less often they have been derived from targeted research or monitoring projects. These observations have improved our understanding of the ecology, distribution and phenology of fruiting in many fungal species, but the estimation of population sizes and trends based on traditional observation data is often difficult or impossible, as the information associated with the observations is not meant for this purpose (Pyke & Ehrlich 2010). For example, fungarium specimens and database records do not include information on the extent and nature of the collecting effort. Furthermore, they lack information on negative records (failures to detect a species in an attempt), which are as important as positive ones when evaluating population trends (Rhodes et al. 2006).

Many fungal species groups do not produce visible fruit bodies or other species-specific structures, or these structures are extremely rare, and cannot be detected in traditional surveys. These can now be studied using molecular methods (e.g. Jones et al. 2011; Liu et al. 2011). Even fruit body producing macrofungi are difficult to survey due to the unpredictable fruiting patterns (Halme & Kotiaho 2012; van der Linde et al. 2012). In many species fruit bodies can be found for only a short period of time, which may vary between years (Lagana et al. 2002). Furthermore, many species do not fruit annually (e.g. Straatsma et al. 2001). Molecular analysis of environmental samples might overcome these shortcomings and provide a more realistic or at least different insight into macrofungal community structure than offered by observations of fruit bodies (Porter et al. 2008; Geml et al. 2009). So far, molecular methods have, however, only been applied in scientific studies, and their potential in monitoring fungal biodiversity professionally or by the aid of amateurs is yet unexplored.

During the last decade numerous biodiversity information databases have been launched for data collecting. Considering the whole biota, there are more than 600 different databases worldwide (Borges *et al.* 2010). Most of these are taxonomically or regionally restricted. Moreover, the development of the

databases has not been a coordinated effort. Even though the Biodiversity Information Standards initiative (www.tdwg.org) has tried to standardise the databases, there is a high variation in the database structure and usability even within a single species group or across taxonomical groups within a geographical area.

Within mycology, a recent rapid development of molecular databases has pushed the disorder even further. Presently the molecular information is spread over dozens of databases with different levels of accuracy in the nomenclature and quality of the included sequences (see e.g. Abarenkov et al. 2010; Öpik et al. 2010; Benson et al. 2011).

We believe that value and usability of databases can be increased by rethinking data collection, database structure and organisation. Against this background we review the way fungal records have been obtained and documented in the past, and investigate how molecular methods and online database platforms may boost fungal monitoring in the years to come. Based on this we discuss the potential to improve the quality of fungal recording databases so that they can be used to draw reliable conclusions about fungal biodiversity and its trends. Our focus is on species, because species are the units most often treated in biodiversity conservation work among all biota. Moreover, our focus is on macrofungi, since fungal conservation so far has focused on fruit body producing macrofungi (Dahlberg & Mueller 2011). We admit, however, that there is also a need for a more holistic view of fungal conservation, as recently proposed by Griffith (2012). We hope our recommendations will be inspirational in the attempts to answer these needs.

Recording macrofungi

Fungal foraying

The classical way to obtain records or specimens of macrofungi is fungal foraying. Foraying can be described as more or less random walks focussing on and recording species of interest to the forayer. The resulting data are highly unstructured and reflect the skills/interest of the forayer as well as the actual conditions for fungal fruiting on the actual day of the foray. One of the main qualities of opportunistic foraying is that it is often the best way to record rarely fruiting species that may be missed using more structured sampling methods (Mueller et al. 2004). Despite their lack of structure, heterogeneous foray data have been utilised to estimate population trends in several studies in the Netherlands (e.g. Arnolds 1988; Arnolds & Jansen 1992; see also; Barron 2011). To standardise for inequality in the foray activity over time these authors used the "relative foray frequency", i.e. the percentage of the records of a species on foray lists related to the total number of forays in the period (Arnolds & Jansen 1992). Recently, similar data have even been utilised to explore changes in fungal fruiting phenology and host selection in response to climate change in the UK and Norway (Gange et al. 2007, 2011; Kauserud et al. 2008, 2010).

While it is easy to standardise for changes in foray activity over time, it is far more challenging to standardise for changes in the quality or focus of forays over time or between people. For example in Finland, it is well known among mycologists that many nature conservationists mainly report their records of red-listed species, because it is considered the best way to promote fungal conservation. Thus, a change in the species' red-list status may result in changed number of records without any connection to true population trends of the species. Failure to account for changes in the quality or focus of forays over time may result in dubious conclusions (Heilmann-Clausen & Læssøe 2012).

Structured monitoring and research based on fruit bodies

More structured data on fungal records can be derived from professional field studies. Ideally, such studies are based on a well-described design, aimed at answering specific research or management questions. Unfortunately, little research has been carried out to optimise sampling designs (O'Dell et al. 2004; but see; Keizer & Arnolds 1990; Halme & Kotiaho 2012), and in practice field methodologies and the overall sampling regime vary enormously among studies, even within comparable habitats. Some studies have used fixed sample plots or transects of very varied size and length, others have sampled a specified amount of substratum. Specific recommendations were made by Mueller et al. (2004), but it is uncertain if these will make a lasting footprint on actual research and monitoring activities in the field.

So far, most professional field studies have been designed to study changes over space or environmental gradients, e.g. related to landscape history (e.g. Penttilä et al. 2006), climate (e.g. Lindblad 2001; Kernaghan & Harper 2001), forest type (e.g. Tyler 1985; Såstad 1995) or the intensity of forest management (e.g. Sippola et al. 2001; Luoma et al. 2004). If the field methodology is well defined and adequately described such studies can be repeated over time, and hence they have the potential to produce high-quality structured data, suitable to document changes in fungal fruiting over time. This approach has been utilised to investigate changes in fungal fruiting in acidic oak forests and conifer plantations in the Netherlands (Arnolds 1988). We strongly encourage researchers to follow this track in future.

Recently, schemes have been set up specifically to monitor changes in fungal fruiting over time in seven European countries (Senn-Irlet *et al.* 2007). Again the Netherlands have taken the lead, surveying annually 110 macrofungal species in 600 permanent plots in a citizen science project, coordinated by two employed coordinators (Arnolds & Veerkamp 2011).

Fungal monitoring beyond fruit bodies

The scientific relevance of surveys or monitoring based on fruit bodies has long been questioned, as they do not record presence of macrofungi as vegetative mycelium (Allmér et al. 2006) resulting in an imperfect understanding of the community present (Geml et al. 2009). Alternative techniques to fruit body surveys, based on isolation of fungi present in environmental samples have long been utilised for litter, wood and soil fungi (e.g. Allmér et al. 2006), and since the 1980's molecular tools have been applied (Lindahl & Boberg 2008; Porter et al. 2008). Isolation and early molecular techniques were laborious and applied mainly in basic research on community composition and development in fungal communities on limited spatial and

temporal scales. However, these methods have high potential when applied in a specific conservation context. For instance, Parfitt *et al.* (2005) developed specific primers to detect selected wood-inhabiting species present in vegetative stages in living and dead trees. By using these, they found that their target species were more long-living, frequent and abundant in their substrata as mycelia than was evident from the presence of fruit bodies.

Many recently developed molecular techniques have the potential to be much more widely utilised in large scale monitoring and surveying. High throughput sequencing methods offer a promising tool to study fungal distribution patterns and population trends. Unlike with traditional sequencing it is possible to process bulk environmental samples and produce thousands of DNA sequences in a single run (see e.g. Nilsson et al. 2010; Ovaskainen et al. 2010; Lentendu et al. 2011). However, at the moment the high one-off cost for the sequencing combined with rarity of high throughput sequencing platforms and their location in academic or medical institutions, make this approach practically usable only for researchers. Further, some serious scientific challenges need to be resolved, before this approach will be broadly applicable in monitoring of fungal biodiversity.

One serious constraint is the lack of comprehensive reference sequence libraries. Thus, high-quality reference molecular data are present for less than 1 % of the estimated number of fungal species (Abarenkov et al. 2010; Öpik et al. 2010; Blackwell 2011). A large proportion of fungal sequences found in environmental samples currently remain unidentified, when matched against sequences in GenBank (Benson et al. 2011) or curated fungal sequence databases like Unite or BOLD (Ratnasingham & Hebert 2007; Abarenkov et al. 2010). Such unidentified sequences are typically clustered into molecular operational taxonomic units (MOTU) (Blaxter et al. 2005), operational taxonomic units (OTU) (e.g. Vrålstad 2011) or virtual taxa (Öpik et al. 2010) and uploaded to public sequence databases. Comparison of MOTUs (or OTUS and virtual taxa) across studies is laborious and confusing, because these entities are currently labelled with several, e.g. GenBank, accession numbers. In this sense the suggestion by Hibbett et al. (2011) for formal classification of environmental sequences is essential and well justified, and would be of great help for following fungal population trends based on high throughput sequencing of environmental samples. It is, however, crucial that this approach is combined with a structured approach to fungal taxonomy and barcoding of species missing in reference sequence databases.

Another challenge is that the overwhelming fungal diversity may inhibit effective species identification. This is especially the case with respect to the identification of sparse sequences and their distinction from the noise caused by sequencing and PCR amplification errors. However, the progress in methodological and data analysis techniques has been rapid and these obstacles are being addressed (e.g. Huson et al. 2007; Quince et al. 2009, 2011; Schloss et al. 2009). Difficulties around the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region located in multiple copies in ribosomal nuclear DNA are an issue itself, since the barcode region ITS (Schoch et al. 2012) is the primary target of many molecular databases. In some fungal groups ITS is not sufficiently variable and fails to detect true species

(Gazis et al. 2011 and references therein). However, in some taxa the intragenomic or intraspecific variation of the ITS is so high that it cannot be distinguished from interspecific variation (Nilsson et al. 2008; Lindner & Banik 2011). This is a problem especially in high throughput sequencing applications, since in sequencing runs multiple copies of ITS behave individually and no consensus sequence is produced. Thus, molecular species diversity estimates will be more or less distorted, if based on ITS alone.

Finally, fungal high throughput sequencing studies to date have mostly been DNA-based and are hence unable to distinguish securely between dormant and active life stages and even dead hyphae still containing intact DNA. RNA-based approaches would probably be a solution to this problem, but may involve other constraints (Rajala *et al.* 2011).

Monitoring fruit bodies in the molecular era

High throughput sequencing methods are still in their infancy and currently they are not used in monitoring programmes, as far as we are aware. When the above issues have been addressed, their potential is enormous, and we are convinced that fungal population trends in the near future can be followed in a meaningful way by using standardised sampling methods based on environmental samples, e.g. drilled saw dust samples (wood-inhabiting fungi) or soil samples (mycorrhizal and decomposing soil fungi).

However, we are convinced that monitoring based on fruit bodies will have relevance even in the future. First, fungal fruit bodies are appealing to ordinary people, which facilitates the inclusion of fungi in citizen science based monitoring of biodiversity. Citizen science invokes a big potential for increasing the public knowledge of species and conservation needs, hand in hand with the production of scientifically valuable data (Bonney et al. 2009). Also for the really rare species, the search for fruit bodies by professional and interested amateurs might be the only cost-effective way to obtain records, as environmental sampling is difficult to target towards very low frequent mycelia hidden in soil or other substrata. Second, fruit body observation is relevant in its own right. As with bird monitoring schemes that are often highly concerned with breeding success rather than the number of breeding pairs (e.g. Martin & Geupel 1993), the emergence of fruit bodies may tell more about the success of e.g. decay fungus in a fallen tree, than the presence of mycelia. Finally, data on fruit bodies present a longer time frame than molecular data. It is only within the last 5 yr that molecular studies have begun to generate substantial datasets allowing for an emerging insight in large scale patterns in fungal communities and the frequency of individual species over space. In comparison, data on fruit bodies show a continuity of 50 yr or more in many European countries (e.g. Arnolds & Jansen 1992; Gange et al. 2011).

Documenting fungal records

Physical specimens

Classically dried specimens have been deposited in fungaria, providing collections of samples of taxonomic value, typically

biased towards rare or otherwise notable species or difficult species complexes. Thus, the detection of, for example, an increasing population trend is difficult based on fungarium specimens. The strength of fungarium collections is that they provide solid proof that a species occurred in a specific site at a given date. Further they allow rechecking the species identity when more taxonomic and molecular knowledge becomes available. Related to fungarium collections are fungal culture collections, keeping live cultures of fungi, but usually restricted in the number of strains kept of each fungal taxa. Thus, culture collections are of limited interest for evaluating species frequencies and distribution patterns in time and space.

Paper lists and database records

The main traditional source of fungal records is compiled lists from fungal forays, sometimes backed by deposited specimens, which are numerous in some countries (cf. Arnolds & Jansen 1992; Gange et al. 2011). In the digital era, paper lists from forays have been replaced by database entries. This shift involves drawbacks as well as advantages; classical foray lists were usually compiled by trained amateurs or professionals, which guaranteed a fair level of reliability. Online platforms for data submission attract untrained amateurs alike. This may seriously undermine data quality, but on the other hand modern databases offer new possibilities for data validation. For instance, photos can be submitted as documentation, and interactive validation systems can be set up. For instance, in the Danish basidiomycete atlas all species have been coded with specific requirements for validation (e.g. photo, dried material or notes on colour change or smell) and operates a forum function, allowing a dialogue between experts and amateurs connected to every single record. Here even documentation photos and notes on, for example, microscopical characters can be entered and stored, even if specimens are not kept for the future. Further, online databases offer a good platform for storing supplementary information, e.g. on habitat association and on survey input, as discussed later.

Tracking survey input

The amount and quality of fungal recording is inconstant over time, and this seriously restricts the potential to track changes in population sizes for specific species. One way to address this problem is by recording the amount and quality of survey input, i.e. the effort allocated to searching in the field and the methods used. In research projects and professional monitoring programmes survey input is normally well described, but this information is rarely stored in a standardised way. In more unstructured foraying survey input is often not recorded at all or only as written reports in note books.

The value of fungal recording can be increased considerably if survey input is recorded in a standardised way. Survey data should include details on time spent searching, the type of sampling conducted (e.g. random walks, targeted walks, survey of fixed plots or transects, environmental sampling or fruit body survey) and targets for the survey. It is important to accept that even "random walks" often have a narrower target than "all macrofungi" because most mycologists are not able or willing to survey all macrofungi growing on various

substrata. Data quality can be increased by specifying even vague targets (e.g. all fleshy fungi, red-listed wood-inhabiting fungi, edible fungi etc.) for random walks, to allow possibilities for comparisons over time. By entering such data in a common database, it could be stated that, for example, in 2008 behind the 18 deposited specimens of one species there were 153 hr of active searching in a given habitat. This could then be compared to figures from other years. Comparison would also be made of how the effort matches with the potential or proven fruiting seasons of different species.

GPS systems offer an excellent opportunity to record survey input. Currently these systems enable tracking the survey routes of a field mycologist almost to an accuracy of 1 m. In Finland the officials conducting governmental inventories of wood-decaying fungi have tracked their routes with a standard method (Fig 1). After the track is saved on a computer, geographic information programs can be used to calculate the covered area from the track. Moreover, after the survey each area is given "an index of field work intensity" to display how carefully the inventory was carried out and which substrata the inventory concentrated on. This enables standardising the survey input to surveyed area without being forced to allocate time in establishing sample plots.

Storing and sharing fungal records

Public databases containing fungal biodiversity data have developed enormously within the last decade. They can be divided into four main types, which we here denote as taxonomic databases, molecular reference databases, fungarium databases and recording databases.

The taxonomic databases are best represented by Index Fungorum and the associated MycoBank, which serve as a reference or backbone for everybody working with fungal species. MycoBank (www.mycobank.org) has developed immensely in recent years to become the standard reference for fungal taxonomy and nomenclature, providing original descriptions and expert views on the validity of published names (Crous *et al.* 2004). Molecular reference databases e.g. GenBank and UNITE, basically serve the same purpose, but are targeted to contain genetic reference information derived from scientific studies and/or barcoding projects.

Several fungaria are now entering the digital era by digitizing their collections. Most impressive is the mycological database of the University of Oslo, containing more than 200 000 digitized specimens. The development of fungaria databases are a big step forward in fungal taxonomy and biogeography. They fulfil the traditional requirement of having a fungarium sample for the validation of the record. An obvious drawback, however, is that the information shows mostly the collecting activity instead of actual biodiversity trends, and hence they are only of limited relevance in population studies.

In the last decade recording databases have been set up in many countries so that amateur mycologists can enter their field sightings of fungi (Dahlberg et al. 2010; Supplementary appendix 1). Some are general biodiversity databases designed to collect information on many taxonomic groups. These databases, for example Hatikka in Finland (www.fieldjournal.org), generally serve well when the surveyed organisms are well-known. Fungi are not, and thus for fungal observations more

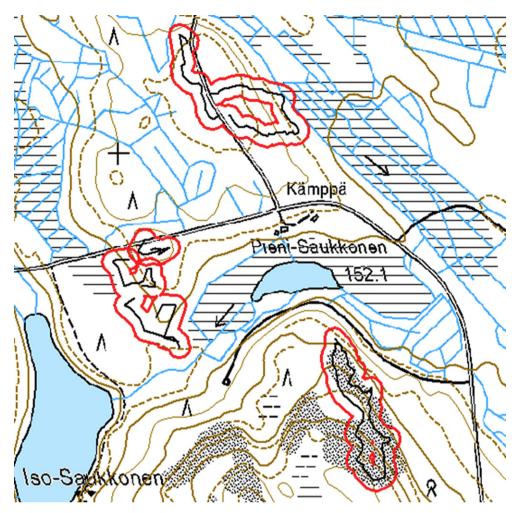


Fig 1 — Tracks produced by GPS tracking during an inventory focussing on wood-inhabiting fungi in Central Finland. The GPS was programmed to save a position after every 10 m. The track was drawn as a black line and the red line shows the estimated covered area (10 m in all directions from the true track). The breaks in the track are areas where the field worker has paused the tracking for example because of bypassing some uninteresting areas. (⊚ National land survey of Finland, MML).

elaborate and dynamic tools and platforms are needed. Some platforms have been designed specifically for fungal biodiversity information and are, therefore, able to handle information on the validation of the observation. These recording platforms can generate substantial amounts of data. For instance the Danish basidiomycete atlas (www.svampeatles.dk) has received 50 000 fungal records per year since it started in 2009 (Læssøe et al. 2011). A majority of these records are not backed by fungarium specimens, and are hence "naked" and impossible to recheck in cases of altered taxonomy or uncertainty regarding the identification skills of the depositor.

Database accessibility ranges from easy to difficult and restricted in all the above mentioned categories. Language is often an obstacle and many recording databases can only be used with the language of their country of origin. The actual searches are open to all users in all the mentioned databases. Moreover, many of them are linked to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF; available at www.gbif.org) which provides an information infrastructure, community-developed tools and capacity-building. Even more important, GBIF functions as a metadatabase, and enables free and open access to

all input data. Thus, it provides the possibility of searching for the information saved in many databases (Telenius 2011).

Research and monitoring data

Data from scientific surveys and research constitute a special case. Firstly, researchers often design their own systems to handle their data. Secondly, researchers may be hesitant to deposit their data in metadatabases because they fear that other researchers may take advantage of their data, without proper acknowledgements. Several attempts to fight this phenomenon have been published, and recently some journals have been active in promoting the free distribution of published datasets (Whitlock 2011). However, it is still a huge paradox that in the world of increasing knowledge and possibilities for data distribution there are millions of records hidden in the hard drives of scientists' computers. It is crucial that such data are shared, before they are lost due to breakdown of hardware or simple neglect. Thus, we recommend all researchers to submit their fungal datasets to GBIF or other metadatabases as soon as the scientific highlights have been published.

In fungal molecular research, it is a common practice to submit sequence data to GenBank or to similar databases, but the lack of data standards makes these data of little value in relation to meta-analysis of species trends, ecology and distribution patterns. We, therefore, highly welcome recent efforts to standardise data, and to include environmental information in data-submission from studies generating genetic data, e.g. from environmental samples (Yilmaz et al. 2011). Similarly it is promising that UNITE, which originally was developed as a reference database for identifying ITS sequences of ectomy-corrhizal fungi, is now open to metadata relating sequences to specific sample plots and studies and providing details on soil type, host trees etc. (Abarenkov et al. 2010).

A catch all mycological database/platform

Many existing databases work well in their own context, but this is restricted. Valuable data are presently derived from unstructured and structured observations on fruit bodies as well as from molecular studies, but these different types of data are kept separately. Considering the advances both in molecular biology

and information technology, as well as the need to collect fruiting data, we believe the way we collect and manage observation data on fungi needs rethinking. We see it as a crucial challenge to develop databases that enable incorporation of different types of information from various sources, yet retain a user-friendly interface.

An ideal scenario would be an open-access, user-friendly database that could be integrated to give information on any particular species, based on amateur sightings, fungarium samples, species lists saved by researchers and molecular records derived from high throughput sequencing. The platform should be interactive with several tools to explore the validity of the information, providing instant feedback and observation matrixes allowing evaluation of information based on the sampling effort utilised, personal knowledge of the collector, reliability of the molecular records and documentation such as photographs. The taxonomic stability should be supported as far as possible by linking to a universal taxonomic platform, as presently offered by MycoBank in collaboration with Index Fungorum. Ideally, this database would be a global platform, or global repository of national multifunction platforms, allowing world-wide comparison of

Table 1 $-$ The minimum entry fields of a catch all database for documenting fungal observation data		
Data level	Entry field	Possible content and variable stages
Taxon	Latin name Taxon code (LSID) Common name Special status Validation requirements	Unique name from www.mycobank.org or www.indexfungorum.org Unique identifier from www.mycobank.org or www.indexfungorum.org Unique name (in different languages) E.g. red list status in different areas E.g. need for photo documentation, specimen
Person	Name of person education Experience as mycologist	Unique name E.g. biologist, forester, other academic E.g. as time in years, or based on expert assessment
Recording event	Purpose Targets Duration/extend	 E.g. research, structured monitoring, expert foray, amateur foray E.g. edible species, all species, red-listed species, saproxylic species, ectomycorrhizal fungi E.g. time in hr/size of sample, area covered
Record	Date of record Name of taxon Name of recorder Name of determinator Name of confirmator	Entered by recorder Entered by recorder, but linked to taxon base Entered by recorder, but linked to person base If different from recorder; linked to person base If different from determinator; linked to person base
	Life stage Abundance	 E.g. fruit body, sterile macroscopic structure, mycorrhiza, spore, mycelium, unknown E.g. missing but searched for (negative record), present (positive record), abundance
	Type of record	E.g. sighting, literature record, collection, environmental sample, sequence
	Type of documentation	E.g. none, notes on important characters, photo, dried specimen, stored sequence
	Validation status Precision of UTM coordinates	E.g. none, expert validation, sequence match Free estimate or based on predefined categories
	Habitat type Substrate Host organism Photo	Preferably from predefined list Preferably from predefined list Preferably from predefined list of host genera/species + free text As uploaded by recorder
	Sequence Written documentation	E.g. ITS sequence E.g. field and lab notes documenting characters and the validation process

population trends, species distributions and other interesting topics.

The emergence of such a database is probably several years away, but already it makes sense to standardise ways that data are collected across projects. In Table 1 we have provided our suggestions for minimum entries that a database of fungal records should contain to fulfil this goal.

Acknowledgements

We thank Dr. Kaisa Junninen and Metsähallitus for providing the material for Fig. 1 and Dr. Paul Kirk and Dr. Nikica Ogris for valuable comments on databases for fungal records. Two anonymous reviewers and the editors provided valuable comments which clearly raised the quality of this paper. This work was funded by the Finnish Cultural Foundation (Post Doc Pool grant to PH) and the Aage V. Jensen naturfond (Post Doc funding to JH-C).

Supplementary data

Supplementary data related to this article can be found online at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.funeco.2012.05.005.

REFERENCES

- Abarenkov K, Nilsson RH, Larsson K, Alexander IJ, Eberhardt U, Erland S, Hoiland K, Kjoller R, Larsson E, Pennanen T, Sen R, Taylor AFS, Tedersoo L, Ursing BM, Vralstad T, Liimatainen K, Peintner U, Kõljalg U, 2010. The UNITE database for molecular identification of fungi recent updates and future perspectives. New Phytologist 186: 281—285.
- Allmér J, Vasiliauskas R, Ihrmark K, Stenlid J, Dahlberg A, 2006. Wood-inhabiting fungal communities in woody debris of Norway spruce (*Picea abies* (L.) Karst.), as reflected by sporocarps, mycelial isolations and T-RFLP identification. FEMS Microbiology Ecology **55**: 57–67.
- Arnolds E, 1988. The changing macromycete flora in the. Netherlands. Transactions of the British Mycological Society **90**: 391–406.
- Arnolds E, Jansen E, 1992. New evidence for changes in the macromycete flora of the Netherlands. *Nova Hedwigia* 55: 325–351
- Arnolds E, Veerkamp MT, 2011. Paddestoelenmeetnet. http://nem.paddestoelenkartering.nl (assessed 18.05.11).
- Barron ES, 2011. The emergence and coalescence of fungal conservation social networks in Europe and the U.S.A. Fungal Ecology 4: 124–133.
- Benson DA, Karsch-Mizrachi I, Lipman DJ, Ostell J, Sayers EW, 2011. GenBank. Nucleic Acids Research 39: D32—D37.
- Blackwell M, 2011. The Fungi: 1, 2, 3 ... 5.1 million species? American Journal of Botany 98: 426–438.
- Blaxter M, Mann J, Chapman T, Thomas F, Whitton C, Floyd R, Abebe E, 2005. Defining operational taxonomic units using DNA barcode data. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B **360**: 1935—1943.
- Bonney R, Cooper CB, Dickinson J, Kelling S, Phillips T, Rosenberg KV, Shirk J, 2009. Citizen science: a developing tool

- for expanding science knowledge and scientific literacy. BioScience **59**: 977–984.
- Borges PAV, Gabriel R, Arroz AM, Costa A, Cunha RT, Silva L, Mendonça E, Martins AMF, Reis A, Cardoso P, 2010. The Azorean Biodiversity Portal: an Internet database for regional biodiversity outreach. Systematics and Biodiversity 8: 423–434.
- Crous PW, Gams W, Stalpers JA, Robert V, Stegehuis G, 2004. MycoBank: an online initiative to launch mycology into the 21st century. Studies in Mycology 50: 19—22.
- Dahlberg A, Mueller GM, 2011. Applying IUCN red-listing criteria for assessing and reporting on the conservation status of fungal species. Fungal Ecology 4: 147–162.
- Dahlberg A, Genney DR, Heilmann-Clausen J, 2010. Developing a comprehensive strategy for fungal conservation in Europe: current status and future needs. Fungal Ecology 3: 50–64.
- Gange AC, Gange EG, Sparks TH, Boddy L, 2007. Rapid and recent changes in fungal fruiting patterns. Science 316: 71.
- Gange AC, Gange EG, Mohammed AB, Boddy L, 2011. Host shifts in fungi caused by climate change? Fungal Ecology 4: 184—190.
- Gazis R, Rehner S, Chaverri P, 2011. Species delimitation in fungal endophyte diversity studies and its implications in ecological and biogeographical inferences. *Molecular Ecology* **20**: 3001–3013.
- Geml J, Laursen GA, Timling I, Mcfarland JM, Booth MG, Lennon N, Nusbaum C, Taylor DL, 2009. Molecular phylogenetic biodiversity assessment of arctic and boreal ectomycorrhizal Lactarius Pers. (Russulales; Basidiomycota) in Alaska, based on soil and sporocarp DNA. Molecular Ecology 18: 2213–2227.
- Griffith GW, 2012. Do we need a global strategy for microbial conservation? *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* **27**: 1–2.
- Halme P, Kotiaho JS, 2012. The importance of timing and number of surveys in fungal biodiversity research. Biodiversity and Conservation 21: 205–219.
- Heilmann-Clausen J, Læssøe T, 2012. On species richness estimates, climate change and host shifts in wood-inhabiting fungi. Fungal Ecology. online early.
- Heilmann-Clausen J, Vesterholt J, 2008. Conservation: selection criteria and approaches. In: Boddy L, Frankland JC, van West P (eds), Ecology of Saprotrophic Basidiomycetes. Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 325–347.
- Hibbett DS, Ohman A, Glotzer D, Nuhn M, Kirk P, Nilsson RH, 2011. Progress in molecular and morphological taxon discovery in Fungi and options for formal classification of environmental sequences. Fungal Biology Reviews 25: 38–47.
- Huson DH, Auch AF, Qi J, Schuster SC, 2007. MEGAN analysis of metagenomic data. *Genome Research* 17: 377–386.
- Jetz W, McPherson JM, Guralnick RP, 2012. Integrating biodiversity distribution knowledge: toward a global map of life. Trends in Ecology and Evolution 27: 151–159.
- Jones MD, Forn I, Gadelha C, Egan MJ, Bass D, Massana R, Richards TA, 2011. Discovery of novel intermediate forms redefines the fungal tree of life. Nature 474: 200–203.
- Kauserud H, Stige LC, Vik JO, Okland RH, Hoiland K, Stenseth NC, 2008. Mushroom fruiting and climate change. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 105: 3811–3814.
- Kauserud H, Heegaard E, Semenov MA, Boddy L, Halvorsen R, Stige LC, Sparks TH, Gange AC, Stenseth NC, 2010. Climate change and spring-fruiting fungi. Proceedings of the Royal Society B 277: 1169—1177.
- Keizer PJ, Arnolds E, 1990. Mycocoenology of marshy forest and scrubs.I. Host range of wood-decomposing Aphyllophorales and Heterobasidiomycetes. Wageningen Agricultural University Papers 90: 77–91.
- Kernaghan G, Harper KA, 2001. Community structure of ectomycorrhizal fungi across an alpine/subalpine ecotone. Ecography 24: 181–188.

- Lagana A, Angiolini C, Loppi S, Salerni E, Perini C, Barluzzi C, De Dominicis V, 2002. Periodicity, fluctuations and successions of macrofungi in fir forests (Abies alba Miller) in Tuscany, Italy. Forest Ecology and Management 169: 187–202.
- Lentendu G, Zinger L, Manel S, Coissac E, Choler P, Geremia RA, Melodelima C, 2011. Assessment of soil fungal diversity in different alpine tundra habitats by means of pyrosequencing. Fungal Diversity 49: 113–123.
- Lindahl B, Boberg J, 2008. Distribution and function of litter basidiomycetes in coniferous forests. In: Boddy L, Frankland JC, van West P (eds), Ecology of Saprotrophic Basidiomycetes. Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 183–196.
- Lindblad I, 2001. Diversity of poroid and some corticoid wood-inhabiting fungi along the rainfall gradient in tropical forests, Costa Rica. *Journal of Tropical Ecology* **17**: 353–369.
- Lindner DL, Banik MT, 2011. Intragenomic variation in the ITS rDNA region obscures phylogenetic relationships and inflates estimates of operational taxonomic units in genus Laetiporus. Mycologia 103: 731–740.
- Liu Y, He J, Shi G, An L, Öpik M, Feng H, 2011. Diverse communities of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi inhabit sites with very high altitude in Tibet Plateau. FEMS Microbiology Ecology 78: 355–365.
- Luoma DL, Eberhart JL, Molina R, Amaranthus MP, 2004. Response of ectomycorrhizal fungus sporocarp production to varying levels and patterns of green-tree retention. Forest Ecology and Management 202: 337–354.
- Læssøe T, Heilmann-Clausen J, Petersen JH, Vesterholt J, 2011. Danmarks Svampeatlas: 2010 sæsonen. Svampe **63**: 6–13.
- Martin TE, Geupel GR, 1993. Nest-monitoring plots methods for locating nests and monitoring success. *Journal of Field* Ornithology 64: 509–517.
- Molina R, Horton TR, Trappe JM, Marcot BG, 2011. Addressing uncertainty: how to conserve and manage rare or little-known fungi. Fungal Ecology 4: 134–146.
- Mueller GM, Schmit JP, Huhndorf SM, Ryvarden L, O'Dell TE, Lodge JE, Leacock PR, Mata M, Umaña L, Wu Q, Czederpiltz DL, 2004. Recommended protocols for sampling macrofungi. In: Mueller GM, Bills GF, Foster MS (eds), Biodiversity of Fungi: inventory and monitoring methods. Elsevier Academic Press, San Diego, CA, pp. 168–172.
- Nilsson RH, Kristiansson E, Ryberg M, Hallenberg N, Larsson KH, 2008. Intraspecific ITS variability in the kingdom fungi as expressed in the international sequence databases and its implications for molecular species identification. *Evolutionary Bioinformatics* 4: 193–201.
- Nilsson RH, Veldre V, Hartmann M, Unterseher M, Amend A, Bergsten J, Kristiansson E, Ryberg M, Jumpponen A, Abarenkov K, 2010. An open source software package for automated extraction of ITS1 and ITS2 from fungal ITS sequences for use in high-throughput community assays and molecular ecology. Fungal Ecology 3: 284–287.
- Öpik M, Vanatoa A, Vanatoa E, Moora M, Davison J, Kalwij JM, Reier Ü, Zobel M, 2010. The online database MaarjAM reveals global and ecosystemic distribution patterns in arbuscular Mycorrhizal fungi (Glomeromycota). New Phytologist 188: 223–241.
- Ovaskainen O, Nokso-Koivisto J, Hottola J, Rajala T, Pennanen T, Ali-Kovero H, Miettinen O, Oinonen P, Auvinen P, Paulin L, 2010. Identifying wood-inhabiting fungi with 454 sequencingwhat is the probability that BLAST gives the correct species? Fungal Ecology 3: 274–283.
- O'Dell TE, Lodge JE, Mueller GM, 2004. Approaches to sampling macrofungi. In: Mueller GM, Bills GF, Foster MS (eds), Biodiversity of Fungi: inventory and monitoring methods. Elsevier Academic Press, San Diego, CA, pp. 163–168.
- Parfitt D, Hynes J, Rogers HJ, Boddy L, 2005. Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) assay detects rare tooth fungi in wood where

- traditional approaches fail. Mycological Research 109: 1187-1194.
- Penttilä R, Lindgren M, Miettinen O, Rita H, Hanski I, 2006. Consequences of forest fragmentation for polyporous fungi at two spatial scales. Oikos 114: 225–240.
- Porter TM, Skillman JE, Moncalvo JM, 2008. Fruiting body and soil rDNA sampling detects complementary assemblage of Agaricomycotina (Basidiomycota, Fungi) in a hemlockdominated forest plot in southern Ontario. *Molecular Ecology* 17: 3037–3050.
- Pressey RL, Humphries CJ, Margules CR, Vane-Wright RI, Williams PH, 1993. Beyond opportunism: key principles for systematic reserve selection. Trends in Ecology and Evolution 8: 124–128.
- Pyke GH, Ehrlich PR, 2010. Biological collections and ecological/ environmental research: a review, some observations and a look to the future. Biological Reviews 85: 247—266.
- Quince C, Lanzen A, Curtis TP, Davenport RJ, Hall N, Head IM, Read LF, Sloan WT, 2009. Accurate determination of microbial diversity from 454 pyrosequencing data. Nature Methods 6: 639–641
- Quince C, Lanzen A, Davenport R, Turnbaugh P, 2011. Removing noise from pyrosequenced amplicons. BMC Bioinformatics 12: 38.
- Rajala T, Peltoniemi M, Hantula J, Mäkipää R, Pennanen T, 2011. RNA reveals a succession of active fungi during the decay of Norway spruce logs. Fungal Ecology 4: 437–448.
- Ratnasingham S, Hebert PDN, 2007. BOLD: the barcode of life data system. Molecular Ecology 7: 355–364. www.barcodinglife.org.
- Rhodes JR, Tyre AJ, Jonzen N, McAlpine CA, Possingham HP, 2006. Optimizing presence-absence surveys for detecting population trends. *Journal of Wildlife Management* **70**: 8–18.
- Såstad SM, 1995. Fungi-vegetation relationships in a Pinus sylvestris forest in central Norway. Canadian Journal of Botany 73: 807–816.
- Schloss PD, Westcott SL, Ryabin T, Hall JR, Hartmann M,
 Hollister EB, Lesniewski RA, Oakley BB, Parks DH, Robinson CJ,
 Sahl JW, Stres B, Thallinger GG, Van Horn DJ, Weber CF, 2009.
 Introducing mothur: open-source, platform-independent,
 community-supported software for describing and comparing
 microbial communities. Applied and Environmental Microbiology
 75: 7537–7541.
- Schoch CL, Seifert KA, Huhndorf S, Robert V, Spouge JL, Levesque CA, Chen W, Fungal Barcoding Consortium, 2012. Nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region as a universal DNA barcode marker for Fungi. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 109: 6241–6246.
- Senn-Irlet B, Heilmann-Clausen J, Genney D, Dahlberg A, 2007.

 Guidance for the Conservation of Fungi. Prepared for the Convention
 on the Conservation of European and Natural Habitats. European
 Council. Document T-PVS (2007) 13 (rev). Strasbourg 17 Oct
 2007 (accessed 19.05.11). Available from: http://www.wsl.ch/eccf/Guidance_Fungi.pdf
- Sippola AL, Lehesvirta T, Renvall P, 2001. Effects of selective logging on coarse woody debris and diversity of wood-decaying polypores in eastern Finland. Ecological Bulletins 49: 243–254.
- Straatsma G, Ayer F, Egli S, 2001. Species richness, abundance, and phenology of fungal fruit bodies over 21 years in a Swiss forest plot. Mycological Research 105: 515–523.
- Telenius A, 2011. Biodiversity information goes public: GBIF at your service. Nordic Journal of Botany 29: 378–381.
- Tyler G, 1985. Macrofungal flora of Swedish beech forest related to soil organic matter and acidity characteristics. Forest Ecology & Management 10: 13–29.
- van der Linde S, Holden E, Parkin PI, Alexander IJ, Anderson IC, 2012. Now you see it, now you don't: the challenge of detecting, monitoring and conserving ectomycorrhizal fungi. Fungal Ecology. online early.

Vrålstad T, 2011. ITS, OTUs and beyond-fungal hyperdiversity calls for supplementary solutions. Molecular Ecology 20: 2873—2875.

Whitlock MC, 2011. Data archiving in ecology and evolution: best practices. Trends in Ecology and Evolution 26: 61–65.

Yilmaz P, Kottmann R, Field D, Knight R, Cole JR, Amaral-Zettler L, Gilbert JA, Karsch-Mizrachi I, Johnston A, Cochrane G, Vaughan R, Hunter C, Park J, Morrison N, Rocca-Serra P, Sterk P, Arumugam M, Bailey M, Baumgartner L, Birren BW, Blaser MJ, Bonazzi V, Booth T, Bork P, Bushman FD, Buttigieg PL, Chain PS, Charlson E, Costello EK, Huot-Creasy H, Dawyndt P, Desantis T, Fierer N, Fuhrman JA, Gallery RE, Gevers D, Gibbs RA, Gil IS, Gonzalez A, Gordon JI, Guralnick R, Hankeln W, Highlander S, Hugenholtz P, Jansson J, Kau AL, Kelley ST, Kennedy J, Knights D, Koren O, Kuczynski J, Kyrpides N, Larsen R, Lauber CL, Legg T, Ley RE, Lozupone CA, Ludwig W, Lyons D, Maguire E, Methé BA, Meyer F, Muegge B, Nakielny S, Nelson KE, Nemergut D, Neufeld JD, Newbold LK, Oliver AE, Pace NR, Palanisamy G, Peplies J, Petrosino J, Proctor L, Pruesse E, Quast C, Raes J, Ratnasingham S, Ravel J, Relman DA, Assunta-Sansone S, Schloss PD, Schriml L, Sinha R, Smith MI, Sodergren E, Spor A, Stombaugh J, Tiedje JM, Ward DV, Weinstock GM, Wendel D, White O, Whiteley A, Wilke A, Wortman JR, Yatsunenko T, Glöckner FO, 2011. Minimum information about a marker gene sequence (MIMARKS) and minimum information about any (x) sequence (MIxS) specifications. Nature Biotechnology 29: 415-420.

ARTICLE INFO

Accepted 24 May 2012

Corresponding editor: Petr Baldrian

KEYWORDS

Biodiversity survey
Biological collections
Detectability
High throughput sequencing
Pyrosequencing
Red-listed species

Panu HALME^{a,b,*}, Jacob HEILMANN-CLAUSEN^a, Teppo RÄMÄ^c, Timo KOSONEN^d, Panu KUNTTU^e

^aCentre for Macroecology, Evolution and Climate, Biological Institute, University of Copenhagen, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

^bDepartment of Biological and Environmental Science, P.O. Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland

^cTromsø University Museum, University of Tromsø, NO-9037 Tromsø, Norway

^dDepartment of Biology, Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences, Herbarium, FI-20014 University of Turku, Finland

^eUniversity of Eastern Finland, School of Forest Sciences, P.O. Box 111, FI-80101 Joensuu, Finland

*Corresponding author. Department of Biological and Environmental Science, P.O. Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Tel.: +358 40 820 4799.

E-mail address: panu.halme@jyu.fi(P. Halme)

1754-5048/\$ — see front matter © 2012 Elsevier Ltd and The British Mycological Society. All rights reserved

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.funeco.2012.05.005