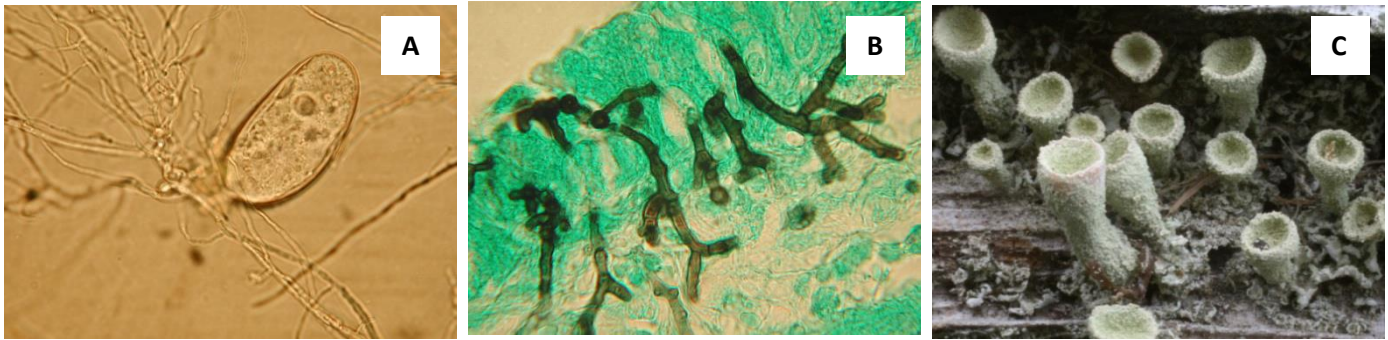


Fungal interactions



A: Chytrid fungus beneficial in ruminants (Photo credit: Gareth Griffith); B: *Aspergillus fumigatus* hyphae invading the mammalian lung tissue (Photo credit: Elaine Bignell); C: Lichen fruit bodies (Photo credit: Ali Ashby).

AIM: To produce an information flyer (1 or 2 sides A4) which can be used to educate the public, in a fun but informative way, about the fascinating ways in which fungi interact with other organisms in the natural environment. Your flyer should describe one example of an interaction between a fungus and another organism (which could be another fungus), that is particularly interesting, or particularly important, to mankind.

There are over 120,000 known species of fungi and they interact with each other and with other organisms in myriad different ways. These include for example; interactions between fungi and plants, fungi and insects, fungi and humans, fungi and other animals (including nematodes, frogs, ruminants and bats, fungi and bacteria and fungi and algae). These interactions may result in diseases or may be symbiotic interactions where either one or both partners benefit. Topics might include but are not limited to:

- Fungi that associate with plant roots (the mycorrhizas)
- Fungi that live inside of plant cells (fungal endophytes)
- Fungi that cause disease of plants
- Fungal that cause disease of insects
- Fungi that cause disease of humans
- Termites, Ants and fungi
- Nematode trapping fungi
- Ruminant fungi
- Amphibian decline caused by fungal infections
- White nose syndrome in bats
- Lichens
- Fungi that infect other fungi (mycoparasites)

FORMAT: An A4 information flyer which will engage the public and which describes your chosen interaction. Describe the association, the benefits or damage/disease resulting from the interaction, is the association of environmental and/or economic importance. It should include illustrations and sources of further information. The best entries will be distributed at UK Fungus Day events and also on our website.

RELEVANT POINTS:

- Produce an eye catching flyer that will engage the attention of the general public
- Include specific numerical information where relevant
- Include the common English and Latin (scientific) name of the fungus and its associated organism.
- Include your name, age and the name of your school

USEFUL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

<http://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/>

<http://www.ukfungusday.co.uk>

<http://www.aspergillus.man.ac.uk>

<http://www.fungi4schools.org/>

http://www.sciencedaily.com/news/plants_animals/fungus/

http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/toms_fungi/special.html

Be aware that information on websites is not necessarily accurate, and textbooks and scientific journals are the best source of facts!

ENTRY DETAILS: Please send your school entries by Monday 5th October 2015 to:

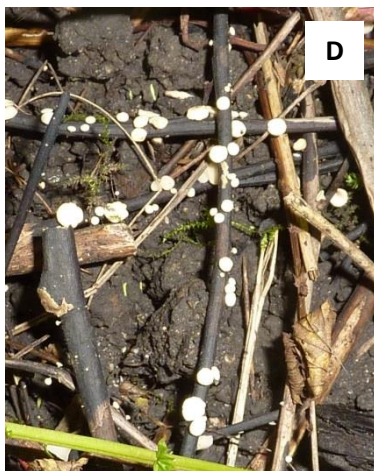
UKFD15 Fungus Interactions Flyer Competition
c/o Mr Joel Hacking (UK Fungus Day Coordinator)
British Mycological Society
City View House
5 Union Street
Ardwick
Manchester
M12 4JD

Tel: +44 (0) 161 277 7638

Fax: +44 (0) 161 277 7634

Email: ukfungusday@britmycolsoc.info

PRIZES: Top 5 prizes: £100 to each student; 10 runners-up prizes: £50 to each student.



D: Ash dieback (Photo credit: John Innes Centre); E: A cordyceps fungus infecting a caterpillar (Photo credit Daniel Winkler); F: Bluebell mycorrhiza (Photo credit: James Merryweather)



British Mycological
Society promoting fungal science