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The Beautiful Moldy World All Around Us

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Abstract

This workshop presents mycological material and techniques to use for class demonstration and student projects in a biology/botany course. We will relate fungi to its function as a decomposer with emphasis on the lytic enzymes produced by the fungi and then emphasis the classical characteristics of the groups represented by our selected decomposers. We will also look at 3 types of isolation experiments; the use of moist chambers, selective plates and baiting to introduce the students to the cryptogamic fungal diversity of various substrates. This introduces the students to various technical skills, observation skills, and fungal diversity.