

Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM) – Portugal:

A Filamentous Fungi Culture Collection

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The ***Micoteca da Universidade do Minho*** – MUM is a filamentous fungi culture collection, established in 1996 and hosted at the Department of Biological Engineering of University of Minho [1]. The collection presently holds 220 strains belonging to 128 species. The holdings include recognised standard strains and isolates derived from research activities, mainly of the genera *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus*. The collection is registered with BioCise (Biological Collection Information Service in Europe) and with the World Data Centre of Microorganisms (WDCM). Details of the open collection's holdings are available on-line at <http://www.micoteca.deb.uminho.pt>. The e-mail address is micoteca@deb.uminho.pt.

The main services available in the MUM are:

- ❖ Supply of cultures to the scientific community, industry and teaching institutions.
- ❖ Public and safe deposits.
- ❖ Long-term preservation services (freeze-drying).
- ❖ Training services include individual training programmes to fulfil specialised or confidential training needs, and advanced courses. A course on food-borne fungi takes place every year, aimed at professionals working in microbiology laboratories in the food and beverage industry and researchers in microbiology. Post-graduation studies (MSc, PhD) in mycology related areas are also available.
- ❖ Documentation: around 500 titles of specialised books are available of which 250 are monographs.

Research activities interests are presently focused on the subjects of biodegradation and biodeterioration; studies of mycotoxins in food products, especially in grapes and wine (WINE-OCHRA RISK, european project QLRT-2000-01761); control of mycological contamination in bottled water (COMBOW, european project CRAF-1999-70843) and in drinking water distribution networks (SAFER, european project EESD-ENV-2000-0217); and, finally, studies of air quality in industrial environments.

[1] Santos, I.M. & Lima, N. (2001) *Criteria followed in the establishment of a filamentous fungi culture collection - Micoteca da Universidade do Minho (MUM)*. World J. Microbiol. Biotechnol. **17**:215-220.



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