

Book review

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Atlas of Entomopathogenic Fungi from Taiwan

Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, Taiwan, R. O. C., 1998. 214 pages.

ISBN 957-97217-6-9. Price 50 USD.

(The book is deposited at the Library of Dep. Bot., Fac. Sci., Charles University, Prague)

This book is another well-produced atlas from Taiwan (following e.g. Tzean et al., 1990, 1994). It is part of the output of the project "Exploration and application of insect microbial pathogens". The book focuses on fungal pathogens belonging to the *Zygomycota*, *Ascomycota* and *Deuteromycota* and fills the gaps in the knowledge of tropical and subtropical entomopathogenic fungi.

The book is divided into several chapters. The introduction deals with occurrence and impact of arthropod-pathogenic fungi, taxonomy, pathogenesis and gives a review of contributions from Taiwan. In this chapter, some members of *Chytridiomycetes* and *Oomycetes* are mentioned, too. As the authors mention in the chapter Material and methods, this work is based on over 830 fungal-infested cadavers of insects, spiders, and mites they collected during the period 1988 to 1996 in various niches of different parts of Taiwan. This chapter is supplemented with a very useful survey of references important for the identification of individual genera of entomopathogenic fungi. It is followed by a chapter on the occurrence of entomopathogenic fungi in Taiwan with a list of herbarium specimens.

The main part of the book is opened with genus descriptions and keys to genera and species. The most important and extensive part contains detailed species descriptions and illustrations of 66 species, 37 of them newly recorded from Taiwan. This part also includes four new species, one new variety and one new combination. The figures include high quality black-and-white micrographs of fungi, colour photographs of insect specimens with fungal cover and very instructive drawings of morphological structures of the microfungi. Each species is clearly described and illustrated on two pages. Many interesting fungi are covered, for example *Neozygites floridana* from mites, *Cordyceps* spp. from ants and other arthropods, *Torubiella* spp. from spiders and other hosts, *Aschersonia* spp. associated with a homopteran scale insect and whitefly, *Gibellula* attacking arachnids and *Beauveria*, *Metarhizium* or *Paccilomyces* spp. known also in our region.

The book is supplemented with an extensive bibliography and a helpful index of arthropod hosts and entomopathogens.

The Atlas of Entomopathogenic Fungi from Taiwan is a lavishly illustrated book with 134 figures and its content is well in agreement with the title of the book. This beautiful atlas will be a very useful guide for all mycologists interested in microfungi as well as for entomologists and workers investigating biocontrol.

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REFERENCES

- TZEAN et al. (1990): *Aspergillus* and related teleomorphs from Taiwan. – 114 p., ed. FIRDI, Hsinchu.
TZEAN et al. (1994): *Penicillium* and related teleomorphs from Taiwan. – 159 p., ed. FIRDI, Hsinchu.