



Expert-in-training programme

Information about training programme

Title of training	Culture collection management & fungal taxonomy
Description of project <i>(max. 100 words)</i>	Training offered includes aspects of day-to-day curation of a living collections of microorganisms (fungi, bacteria) including culture maintenance and data management, strain preservation techniques including cryopreservation and freeze-drying, and characterization of fungal strains based on culture characteristics, morphology of sporulating structures, and DNA sequencing techniques.
Duration of training	3 weeks
Type of training	
(i) Practical experiences	Hands-on training in culture preservation techniques, by working with staff in the cryopreservation and freeze-drying facilities of the collection department. Fungal strain(s) of an unidentified (and possibly novel species of) ascomycete will be studied in culture on different media, the sporulating structures will be photographed and described and, if applicable, compared in culture with related species. In addition to this phenotypic characterization, the strains will also be studied at the molecular level by sequencing and/or other relevant techniques.
(ii) Lectures	Fungal nomenclature – Dr Joost A. Stalpers, Curator (JAS) Legal aspects and regulations affecting culture collections – JAS Basics of collection management – JAS Principles of long-term preservation techniques - JAS Ascomycete taxonomy and morphological identification – Dr Gerard Verkley, assistant-curator (GV) Describing a new fungal species - GV DNA sequence-based identification of fungi – GV
(iii) Seminars	Weekly a seminar from the CBS seminar series can be attended.