

The Laboratory of Botany and Mycology

Fundamental research in areas of plants and biota, taxonomy, ecology, physiology, and biotechnology of fungal taxonomic groups are studied. The mycobiota of different taxonomic and ecological groups in natural and artificial ecosystems of Armenia are investigated: phytotrophic fungi, soil fungi, human mycosis agents, destructors of industrial materials and foodstuffs. The mycotoxigenic fungi which contaminate foodstuffs are identified. Monitoring of fungal biodiversity of pure studied regions of Armenia and Nagorny Karabakh is carried out. Molecular, morphological and phylogeographical approaches of some ectomycorrhizal fungi are studied. Researches on revealing and selection of high-productive cultures of edible fungi are conducted them to be used in mushroom industry and pharmacology. Also the biological activity of vegetative extracts, which inhibit the development of pathogenic microorganisms are studied.

The staff of the laboratory participates in publication of scientific and popular articles, “The Armenian Nature” encyclopedia and “Red Book of Armenia (Higher Plants and Fungi)”, annual “Biodiversity National report”, etc. Using the materials of the staff researches 8 volumes of “Mycobiota of Armenia” are published, which are dedicated to micro- and macromycetes. More than 40 monographs and manuals are published as well.

Scientific researches were supported by different International grants (Tempus, DAAD, NEF, ANSEF, FP6/FP7, NFSAT, USDA, ISTC, etc.).