Assessing The Conservation Status Of Fungi
A Practical Workshop On Red-Listing Fungi Using IUCN Criteria

INSTRUCTORS: Anders DAHLBERG and Gregory MUELLER, with Peter BUCHANAN, Paul CANNON, and Y.L. YANG

TIME: Sunday 3 August 2014, 9:00-16:00
PLACE: Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (IMC10 Conference Center)
COST: 950 Baht (approx. $32 USD), payment due the day of the workshop – this covers the cost of lunch and coffee breaks

Fungal conservation is not yet commonly discussed, considered, or acted upon by the mycological community. Not coincidently, fungi are rarely included in broader conservation discussions, policy decisions, or land management plans. However, species of fungi are not immune to the threats that put species of animals and plants at risk. Fungal species are threatened by habitat loss, loss of symbiotic hosts, pollution, over exploitation, and climate change, but the conservation status of the vast majority of fungal species has not been assessed.

Conservation scientists, land managers, and other decision makers need information on the conservation status and trends of organisms to carry out their work. The IUCN Red List provides this information. However, only one macrofungus and two lichens are included in that global list. This is despite the fact that many fungi are included in a number of country's national red lists. A concentrated effort by the mycological community is needed to address this problem.

This workshop will include presentations and discussions on:

(1) Important reasons to produce fungal red lists, and to communicate that fungi need to be included in conservation discussions and decisions.

(2) The Global Fungal Red List Initiative, and how professional and amateur mycologists can participate.

(3) Using the results of the Global Fungal Red List Initiative to increase interest in fungi by the public and the conservation community.

Email Greg Mueller gmueller@chicagobotanic.org to reserve a place in the workshop or for more information.