
Book reviews*

Taxonomy of Nematophagous Fungi

T.F. Li, K.Q. Zhang and X.Z. Liu (2000). Chinese Scientific and Technological Publication, Beijing (in Chinese). US\$8.00.

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Nematophagous fungi are natural enemies to plant parasitic nematodes that cause severe plant diseases and reduce crop yields worldwide. Some of these fungi have also been developed as effective biological control agents, however, few comprehensive books exist for this complex group of fungi. *Taxonomy of Nematophagous Fungi* is an important contribution to understanding of this subject and useful to those interested in species identification. In general, the authors provide a readable overview of the topic.

The book consists of 9 chapters, reviewing the taxonomy, isolation, ecology and evolution of nematophagous fungi which are divided into nematode-trapping fungi, endoparasitic fungi, opportunistic fungi and nematicide producing fungi. Overall, the emphasis is on the taxonomic aspect, in which discussion is made between species of *Dactylella*, *Monacrosporium* and *Arthrobotrys*, and diagnosis keys are provided for species based on morphological characters and trapping organs. The diagnosis of hundreds of species is thoroughly treated with descriptions, cultural characteristics, drawings, literature and limited discussion. Although the book is written in Chinese, which will create difficulties for non-Chinese readers, it is an important resource for researchers in mycology, plant pathology and nematology.

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