

VIABILITY AND CONSERVATION STUDIES OF FUNGI SPECIES WITH SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL INTEREST

ABSTRACT

Due to the fundamental role of fungi in ecosystem maintenance and its growing socio-economic interest, *ex situ* assays were performed with 14 species of macrofungi through three different methods of preservation: the fruiting body, mycelium grown in liquid culture and mycelium in agar “arenas”.

In each method, the material was kept at -80 ° C and by freeze drying. Viability, tested on solid medium after at least seven days, was highly variable depending on the species and the method used being *Lepista nuda*, *Ganoderma adspersum*, *Pleurotus eryngii*, *Clitocybe geotropa*, *Lepista panaeolus* and *Tricholoma equestre* the species in which it has been achieved a recovery percentage greater than 50% in any of the three developed methods.

Although the procedures were performed under aseptic conditions, there was a large amount of contamination in the samples. Therefore, it is necessary to conduct further studies to obtain higher rates of viability.