



Agriculture & Horticulture
DEVELOPMENT BOARD



New Project

M 059

Mushrooms: Transfer of mushroom pathogen cultures from liquid nitrogen storage at Warwick University to Fera.

Project Number:	M 059
Project Title:	Mushrooms: Transfer of mushroom pathogen cultures from liquid nitrogen storage at Warwick University to Fera
Project Leader:	Professor Ralph Noble
Contractor:	East Malling Research
Industry Representative:	N/A
Start Date:	01 August 2012
End Date:	31 December 2012
Project Cost:	£6,557

Project Summary:

The liquid nitrogen supply of the mushroom pathogen culture collection at Warwick University will be turned off in the near future. Unless steps are taken to retrieve the cultures and transfer them to an alternative low temperature storage system, these cultures will be lost. This work will retrieve the most significant cultures and deposit them into low temperature storage systems at Fera, and check their viability and purity.

Aims & Objectives:

- (i) Project aim(s): To transfer bacterial and fungal mushroom pathogen cultures from liquid nitrogen storage at Warwick University to low temperature storage at Fera.
- (ii) Project objective(s):
 - (a) To retrieve bacterial and fungal pathogen cultures from liquid nitrogen storage at Warwick University on to plate cultures (EMR)
 - (b) To put cultures into low temperature storage facilities at Fera for future mushroom pathology research projects (Fera)
 - (c) To test viability and purity of cultures (Fera).

Benefits to industry

Retrieval of bacterial and fungal pathogen cultures will be of value in future mushroom pathology research projects. The historical cultures will enable comparison with, for example, appearance of new fungicide resistant and/or virulent strains of pathogens in the industry. The cultures to be retrieved have named locations and dates of collection, and include strains of blotch and drippy gill pathogens (*Pseudomonas* spp.) and green mold (*Trichoderma* spp), dry bubble (*Verticillium fungicola*) and cobweb (*Cladobotryum* spp.).

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