



**European Council
for the Conservation
of Fungi**

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Newsletter 12 – Summer 2002

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Introduction
by *Claudia Perini*

Dear friends and colleagues!

As you can see from the front-page Anders Bohlin and Beatrice Senn-Irlet are our new Chair and Secretary, while Regis and I will still be active inside the Executive Committee. ECCF-members are grateful for this application and wish you a good work. Before going on I would like here to express my thanks to everyone of you that collaborate, sometimes very intensively, in heavy work involving important topics - often with terrible short deadlines! Some steps of the 2001: the winter-spring time was characterised by a hot email traffic for the Bern Convention Document, in June the Planta Europa conference brought together some ECCF members, then in September our 5th Meeting in Oulanka. Most of you have surely followed, even if sometimes only partially, ECCF activities on our FORUM and this will be in future more and more the direct in-time connection....

In my six years activities as ECCF-secretary I had the possibility to meet many new mycologists and colleagues, had contacts with old fungi-friends, and even if stressed and overworked this was a smiling point of my "second job". Sincerely thanks to my first chair Maria who introduced me, to the Executive Committee and to the group following the Bern Convention Affair and to all working with mushrooms and fighting for their conservation.

Finally let me say my particular thanks to Regis, a fantastic chair!

My best wishes to all colleagues and friends,

Yours Claudia Perini

Bern Convention in 2001
by *Beatrice Senn-Irlet*

January to March 2001:

Elaboration of fact sheets of a list of species which a representative of a member state of the European council can propose for the inscription for annexe 1 in Bern Convention
These fact sheets has to be written in the following framework

- full title presentation
- presentation of the document and the persons who have worked for by insisting for the country scientifically capacity.
- listing of fungi presented with the number of the page. The pages have to be numerated in order to facilitate the discussion on specific species
- Coloured pictures of each fungus

In a very concerted action the ECCF was able to produce such a document within the deadlines under the guidance and co-ordination of Anders Bohlin. Special efforts were performed by Eef Arnolds (most of the text) and Peter Otto (collection of pictures from all species). Beatrice Senn, Regis Courtecuisse, Alexander Kovalenko and Claudia Perini helped with comments.

5 Examples of our work was handled in time to Eladio Fernandez-Galiano, the representative of the standing committee of European Council. The representative of France was asked to make the official proposal in September 2001.

Fungi should be considered as important elements in the environment and the first inscription in annexe one of Bern Convention is the start for a European consideration for them, and the people who working for their protection .

The official document is labelled T-PVS(2001) 34

June 2001

Planta Europa Congress in Pruhonice/Prague. The documentation with the 33 fungi was presented and Planta Europa who decided to support this proposal.

September 2001

Due to a combination of several unlucky events the representative of France was not able to deliver the official proposal in time. Even the personal intervention of Regis Courtecuisse couldn't change anything.

November 2001

During a first consultation within French governmental bodies first critics for some species was formulated. ECCF decided not to accept this criticism and to maintain the full proposal with 33 species.

At a session of the standing committee of Council of Europe, the secretariat presented the report of the meeting of the group of experts and, in particular, the positive reception of the group of the proposal of the European Council for the Conservation of Fungi (ECCF) to add 33 species to the appendices. As ECCF has no legal status it was *Jean-Paul Koune* from "Journées Européenne du Cortinaire " who was invited to explain the list of 33 species. His report is published in the serie "Nature and environment" as no 122 by the Council of Europe (french version J-P Koune, 2001: Les champignons menacées en Europe, ISBN 92-871-4665-9)

January 2002

Instead of France, Sweden with Torston Larsson from the Swedish Environmental Ministry will key in the proposal and adopts the case.

News from Planta Europa

by *Claudia Perini*

23 – 28 June 2001, Pruhonice, The Czech Republic

The third Planta Europa conference has been hailed a great success: 159 delegates from 38 countries participated. A target-oriented strategy for the Plant Conservation for Europe was build up through workshops on Species and Area Conservation. In the preparation of the plan a logic tree was followed describing goals, objective, results and output, finally activity, everyone point with corrisponding aims, possible targets for monitoring and evaluation, who to contribute and the time span. After 2 days (and part of the nights) of intense hard work distributed in a series of workshops running parallel delegates arrived at circa 50 targets covering issues such as Important Plant Areas, protected area management, information exchange, capacity building and development of the Planta Europa Network.

Moreover ECCF members present (*Antonin, Courtecuisse, Kotiranta, Perini, Senn-Irlet*) meet at the project session "Lower plants and fungi": The session was subdivided in

part 1 “Better knowledge and monitoring of cryptogams” (Chair: Regis Courtecuisse, Reporter: Nick Hodgetts) and part 2 “Information Technology and the scientific Basis for Cryptogam Conservation” (Chair: Lars Söderström, Reporter: Nick Hodgetts). Which are the least known regions in Europe and what to do about them was discussed by Söderström for Bryophytes. Reports on a European Red list for lichens and the norwegian lichen database were explained by Scheidegger and Tindal. For fungi Courtecuisse reported on research programs needed in order to improve the conservation and Senn-Irlet on activities done in Switzerland.

Discussion of the Lower Plant project group touched following points: identify gaps of knowledge, what type of knowledge we need?, which species do we have and where are they?, get the 12 most endangered bryophytes, checklist of macromycetes of Europe, produce checklists of species in Europe and make this accessible on internet, coordinate national efforts, put down a list of threatened umbrella-species to monitor, initiate a list of indicator species. Resulting draft Key Challenges were:

- 1) Produce a checklist of cryptogams in Europe and make accessible on net (6 years?)
- 2) Produce a short list of the most threatened species (especially for groups not on the Bern Convention Appendix) and work towards Action Plans for these species.
- 3) Initiate a list of indicator species that could be used for further evaluation of the cryptogamic flora of Europe
- 4) Introduce 12 (?) of the most threaten bryophytes in Europe to ex-situ conservation and develop methods for ex-situ conservation of other cryptogam-group (e.g. ferns)
- 5) Establish an European Committee for the conservation of Lichens

At the special meeting of the group of experts on Plant Conservation to the Bern Convention the ECCF-JEC proposal of mushroom candidates for amendment of appendix 1 was presented.

European Plant Conservation Strategy (EPCS)

During the summer 2001 the draft strategy, elaborated at Pruhonice and jointly developed by the Council of Europe and Planta Europa, was reassembled and harmonized with the structure of the Global Plant Conservation Strategy. The resulting draft has been sent to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and then recognized as a valuable contribution at the Subsidiary Body of Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA, recommendation VII/8) in Montreal in November 2001. At the 6th Meeting of the “Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity” (The Hague in April 2002) the published strategy was formally submitted; The CBD adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and saw the European Strategy as a particularly relevant initiative!

The Strategy, developed jointly with the Council of Europe, contains both long term policy directions and a set of medium term targets (for 6 years, or 2 Planta Europa trienniums) and covers issues such as Important Plant Areas, protected area management, information exchange, capacity building and development of the Planta Europa Network. Here the Targets from the European Plant Conservation Strategy (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/x For additional information), where we are more or less involved:

ECCF as one of the lead organisations:

(1.1) Working list of all known European plant species (including cryptogamic plants and fungi) produced. By 2004 Prioritised list of groups that require taxonomic revision produced

(1.2) European Red List for vascular plants, revised list for bryophytes, and preliminary Red Lists for lichens, macrofungi and other selected groups published

(5.3) All Targets in the EPCS supported by appropriate research: by 2003 define research needs, present strategy to research bodies, by 2004 find/allocate research partner draw up memoranda of understanding as necessary

ECCF as contributing organisation:

(1.3) Manual of tried and tested (species and habitat) monitoring protocols for scientists and naturalists made available on the web

ECCF as PE member

(2.1) National programmes to identify and monitor non-red listed rapidly declining species promoted in 15 European countries and species included in recovery programmes as appropriate

(2.2) To have promoted the development and implementation of recovery programmes in relevant countries for 50 priority plants across all taxa, their selection to be informed by European Red Lists and lists of rapidly declining but widely scattered species as these become available

(2.9) Plant conservation benefits of effective Rural Development Plans (to include agri-environmental schemes) and other relevant environmental stewardship incentive measures promoted in selected European countries

(2.12) Inclusion in the Habitats and Species Directive (and Emerald Network) of all species listed in the Bern Convention promoted and formally supported by 3 national governments: by 2003 list of qualifying species produced; by 2004 states within the range of each qualifying species contacted.

(2.14) IPAs promoted for inclusion in the PEBLDS and National Biodiversity Action Plans, and promoted to support, inform and underpin international protected area networks

(2.18) Practical micro-reserve programmes established and operational in least 2 regional pilot areas.

(4.1) A joint public promotion to articulate the case for wild plant conservation implemented by Planta Europa members, by 2004

(5.1) Increase employed taxonomists supporting plant conservation by 25% in each European country

(5.4) Increase by 25% the number of volunteer recorders (amateur naturalists) for all plant groups contributing data to support plant conservation

(5.5) Communication and information exchange between scientists and plant conservationists enhanced

(5.6) Capacity of PE to achieve effective plant conservation enhanced

(5.7) Starting from 2002, key conservation messages regularly disseminated to PE members

(5.8) EPCS included within the Global Strategy for Plant conservation of CBD

or in general of interest also for fungi

(1.4) First edition of European Important Plant Areas (IPA) Inventory completed (by 2007)

(1.5) Research initiated to assess effectiveness of IPA approach (by 2003)

(2.7) Manual with guidelines and case studies of best practice for integrated (*in-situ* and *ex-situ*) plant conservation programmes made available on the web.

(2.8) Protocols for *ex situ* conservation for all groups of vascular plants, cryptogamic plants and fungi produced

(2.13) Inclusion of all relevant threatened vascular plants (including tree species), cryptogamic plants and fungi in relevant Bern Convention annexes promoted... by 2004 data sheets of all vascular plant and fungi species completed

(2.15) Programme designed and initiated to evaluate the effectiveness of current protected area management across selected sites of European importance for plants & recommendations disseminated

(4.2) Report on the current status of plant conservation issues in the national curriculum (both higher and lower) of all European Countries produced together with recommendations for development!

IPA – Important Plant Areas (taken from a communication of Liz Radford)

“Identifying Important Plant Areas (IPAs) makes it possible to provide the necessary information about the locations of the best sites for wild plants. Thus the function of the IPA Programme is to identify, protect and manage a network of sites important for the long-term viability of naturally occurring plant populations across the geographical range for which a site-based approach is appropriate. IPA identification covers both higher and lower plants and fungi...”

The criteria for selection of IPAs are based on:

- **A:** The presence of globally and regionally threatened plant species
- **B:** Exceptional botanical richness (in relation to habitat and biogeographical zone)
- **C:** The presence of globally or regionally threatened habitat types

To qualify, a site has to satisfy one or more of these criteria...

The Important Plant Area (IPA) project is intended to inform and underpin existing international, regional and national conservation programmes and legislation...

IPA identification, that of course contributes to a series of international conservation programmes too, is intended to contribute to existing European conservation strategies and networks in the following ways:

- To inform the process of SAC (Special Area of Conservation) site selection proposed in the EU Habitats and Species Directive and carried out through the Natura 2000 network
- To inform the process of ASCI (Area of Special Conservation Interest) site selection as proposed in the Emerald Network of the Bern Convention.
- To contribute to Targets 4 & 5 of the European Plant Conservation Strategy, which proposes a full European inventory of IPAs (Important Plant Areas) by 2007
- To contribute to the implementation of the Pan-European Biological and Landscapes Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS) by taking part in the Pan-European Ecological Network (PEEN)
- To contribute to capacity building for conservation organisations and initiatives through the Planta Europa network.”

A first guideline for the selection of Important Plant Areas (IPA) was distributed at Pruhonice in June 2001. “...In January 2002 Plantlife International appointed Seona

Anderson (seona.Anderson@plantlife.org.uk), who has recently completed a PhD in ethnobotany in the Russian Far East, to co-ordinate this IPA project...

The guidelines for IPA site selection are published in Palmer and Smart 2001 (available on the web at www.plantaeuropa.org). If you would like more information about the IPA project please contact Seona Anderson, IPA Project Manager (seona.anderson@plantlife.org.uk) or Liz Radford, International Programme Manager (liz.radford@plantlife.org.uk).

16 october 2001, at Paris: Steering Committee Meeting

Among other things, most of them are described in the preceding chapters, I (as Regis successor) introduced our Group officially explaining our activities. We are a numerous active, **to now informal group of mycologists. Out as curiosity** in 1985 a first questionnaire on the decline and protection of macrofungi were sent to a preliminary committee members in 19 European countries. Currently delegates represent nearly 40 countries! The fact that we have no legal status was discussed. At present we are considered as Affiliate Network, the same was decided for the European Council for the Conservation of Bryophytes, waiting for a solution. I promised that we'd find it in the next future: that means dear delegates that we can not forget our long discussions of the past and that this argument is still to be defined!

CITES

by *Anders Bohlin*

ECCF was asked by officials of CITES whether the Convention should be applied for fungi or not. Our united point of view is that our knowledge of the threats of commercially used fungi is insufficient to give a sound answer. However it is to be feared that some species may be threatened by too ruthless harvesting methods. At the moment we are not ready to point out some special species to a list for the CITES-convention but we are looking forward to future co-operations.

5th ECCF-MEETING, KUUSAMO, OULANKA – FINLAND, 28.08 – 01.09.2001

by *Claudia Perini*

21 participants from 15 countries meet at the Oulanka Biological Station, a field station of the University of Oulu, at the Oulanka river, in the Oulanka National Park, about 25 km south of the Arctic Circle:

ARNOLDS Eef, BEILEN - NL
BOHLIN Anders, TROLLHÄTTAN - SE
COURTECUISSÉ Régis, LILLE Cedex - F
DIAMANDIS Stephanos, VASSILIKA - GR
EVANS Shelley, SURREY - GB
FRAITURE André, MEISE - B
IVANCEVIC Boris, BELGRADE - YU
JUNTUNEN Piia, TURKU - FIN
KALAMEES Kuulo, 4 TARTU - EE
KAUKONEN Maarit, OULU - FIN

KOTIRANTA Heikki, HELSINKI - FIN
KOVALENKO Alexander, ST PETERSBURG - RU
LAWRYNOWICZ Maria, LODZ - PL
MINTER David, SURREY - GB
OHENOJA Esteri, OULU - FIN
OTTO Peter, LEPZIG - D
PARMASTO Erast, TARTU - EE
PERINI Claudia, SIENA - I
PÄTZOLD Walter, HORNBERG - D
ROBERTS Peter, SURREY - GB
SENN-IRLET Béatrice, BIRMENS DORF – CH

Eef Arnolds opened the 5th ECCF meeting with a surprising and stimulating report titled

”A new challenge for the ECCF: important mushroom areas for Europe.” In his lecture he underlined that “...in order to maintain biodiversity in Europe it is necessary to develop a continental system of well managed nature reserves which are representative of the various natural and seminatural habitats...such a system is proposed in the Pan-European-Ecological-Network...” Guidelines for the selection of Important Plant Areas (IPAs) in Europe were published and distributed by Planta Europa in June 2001. It must be noted that under “plants”, higher and lower plants and fungi as well are considered! “...Essential steps in the designation of IMAs will be: - an improved and updated Red Data List of European macrofungi; - an enumeration of macrofungi restricted to or concentrated in Europe; - a list of target species based on the two preceding documents and the nominated species for the Bern Convention; - objective criteria for identifying IMA’s, based on the occurrence of target species; designation of IMA’s in all European countries. 3 selection criteria for target species can not be applied directly to macrofungi because of incomplete knowledge: species in IUCN red data lists; species in Bern Convention Appendix and/or Habitat Directive; species restricted to or concentrated to Europe: The whole project tacks a series of programs that are in ECCF topics and is in someway their application. So it is only a hope that IMA project gives a sort of strong input to realise the first steps.

This lecture brought to an animate discussion, and – even if with different names such as IFA – various countries are just working in this direction and have their experience.

Eef Arnolds & Mirjam Veerkamp elaborated “A new monitoring network for macrofungi in the Netherlands”. Since 1999 also fungi are included in the NEM (Network Ecological Monitoring). Difficulties to monitor fungi due to their inconstancy in fructification can be compared with the strong fluctuations of butterflies. 110 target species are followed in permanent plots for several years, up to now restricted to forests and avenues on sandy soil.

Stephanos Diamandis discussed a paper presented at the VIII European Ecological Congress at Halkidiki, Greece – 18 – 23/9/1999 titled “Conservation of fungal diversity in Greece” underlining the importance to open the doors and to be present in different not strictly mycological associations.

Shelley Evans “Fungus Conservation – an overview of recent projects in the UK”. She reported some very positive developments due largely to the Government driven directives, and centres on the creation of lists of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species for all groups of organism including fungi. So far wax caps two grasslands areas becomes protected areas for fungi. Mapping and checking goes on. The importance of making publicity in order to involve everyone was underlined too.

Boris Ivancevic in “Legal and extra-institutional conservation of fungi in Yugoslavia 1997-2001” explained the big difficulties to go on with mycological investigation and fungi conservation activities; moreover fungi are more threatened as before because of numerous side-effects largely due to this last armed conflicts. Among cancelled projects he remembered the just organised IV ECCF meeting, mapping and red data list, legal provisions.

Kuulo Kalamees & Erast Parmasto presented in poster format too “The distribution and protection of the species , proposed by ECCF for the Bern Convention Fungus list, in Estonia.” 14 of the proposed species are present as rare or very rare in Estonia and most occur in Nature and/or Landscape reserves.

Maarit Kaukonen in “Landscape ecological planning (LEP) in Finnish state forest” described the Finnish green surface, the forest and park service Metsähallitus and its activities with the development of LEP together with the Finnish Environment Institute.

Heikki Kotiranta talked on “The threatened and near threatened Aphylophorales (fungi) of Finland”. “...Altogether 848 aphylophoroid taxa were evaluated according to the IUCN Red List categories with a national application. 14% falls in the categories RE-VU, 0,4% is not evaluated (NE) not found in natural habitats.

Esteri Ohenoja & Maarit Kaukonen in „Threatened fungi in Kuusamo“ presented the situation of this region. Fortunately the large National Park gives protection for many rare and in Finland threatened fungal species.

Peter Otto & Andrè Fraiture with "ECCF project mapping and monitoring of macromycetes in Europe - pilot series" underlined that after 4 years it is high time that the project comes into operating. They gave an overview on the already existing data on national level. Having in mind actual difficulties the first step is

at least to mark records by hand in maps with an UTM grid (alternatively storage of geographical co-ordinates as a file or on paper) and to compile important ecological data on forms. After the pilot series a second goal is to link mapping with monitoring in order to have a common updated database. A third goal is to present the data in combination with GIS functions on-line. A list of 50 species including the taxa proposed for the Bern Convention - remembering the criteria for selection! - was presented; instructions how to indicate presence or absence - in the sense of not recorded but it has been looked for - of species in the UTM background map were analysed; the form for reporting ecological data was discussed and revised. UTM maps, forms and instructions will be distributed soon.

Peter Otto presents the new Red List of Saxony as an attempt to present and analyse Red Lists in a manner more useful for authorities engaged in nature conservation. The Saxon Red List comprises also selected phytoparasitic fungi (e.g. Peronosporales, Erysiphales, Ustilaginales, Uredinales). All together 921 species are listed. Among other indications each fungus is described with a substratum, its life form (symbionts or host), and the preferred habitats. Missing and extinct species are indicated with the year of the last record. In the case where there is no German trivial name for the fungus a readily comprehensible term is named (e.g. rust on fern) to facilitate better access for non-mycologists. Some tables summarise the diversity of each taxonomic group, life form and habitat.

Erast Parmasto presented in his report and poster “Liiva-Putla Woodland Key Habitat in Estonia, a conservation area for fungi” the New Forest Act (1998) according to it selected *key habitats* will be protected, even if too small for establishment of Reserves.

Walter Pätzold tried to clarify the need of a Legal Status for ECCF. As the president of JEC (Journée Européenne du Cortinaire, founded in F-Strasbourg) he has learnt how to manage a true international/European association. He explained various forms of such international organisations and he designed some steps that have to be done.

Claudia Perini reported on the progress done in the “Network for the Italian Check-list of fungal species, Part I (Hymenomycetes, Basidiomycota)” and some first results, comparing it with the list of the Bern Convention species.

Beatrice Senn-Irlet in “The progress in conservation of fungi in Switzerland” underlined again the focal point “To Inform”, inform administrators, keep in touch with other conservationist groups, inform people on a very broad base why conservation of fungi is important and how it can be done.

Beatrice Senn-Irlet described in “The mapping approach in Switzerland” how to achieve the scientific background for the application of the IUCN Red list criteria. The mapping project is based on three different approaches: freestyle mapping (by amateurs, long-term observations on the whole area), grid-point sampling (on 200 selected forests plots by biologists for 4 years) and sampling at random points covering all types of biotopes in all regions of the country (by amateurs, on a surface of 100 m² during three years). In addition simulation models are used to produce potential distribution maps.

Other national reports are presented (France: a 10 year Inventory Program, Red-lists in some districts, Poland: Atlas of geographical distribution of fungi. 1. part with the first 10 species –maps-description-references), among them a lecture was given of two contributors from Croatia and Armenia, where participants were not able to come. In the last one S.G. Nanagulian wrote about a preliminary RED-List of the macroscopic fungi of Armenia.

Discussions on IPA, IMA, IFA, hotspots and micro reserves although on the mapping program were the most active. Interesting comments were addressed by David Minter on databases and how to analyse it.

During the meeting Regis Courtecuisse reported on all the activities done in order to include fungi the Bern Convention Appendix and distributed the printed document, a good product that took a lot of hard work of a group of us. Leaving the ECCF chair he hopefully look to the possibility to work more active in the IUCN topics. I tried to summarise some of the ECCF steps of this last years; one “secondary” thing was the letter, formalised at Vipiteno presenting ECCF and the importance of Fungi conservation for the Government, was requested by Greece, Hungary and Portugal. The idea of publishing a “Nice Book” expressed by Anders Bohlin in the past is not forgotten and moreover a WebPages will be activated as well.

Finally the new chair – Anders Bohlin – and the new Secretary – Beatrice Senn-Irlet – were officially invited to accept the role, and expressing our gratitude for the collaboration in the past we promised to continue to contribute in future.

The whole work was facilitated by the good reception and fantastic nature surrounding the station. Short walkings just around the Station, half day trips in the surroundings and a whole day excursion were organised and the localities visited are:

- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) → biological province (Oulu province → administer. province)
Kuusamo and Salla → communes
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Biological Station of the University of Oulu. Dry pine heaths. Grid 27°E 7366:603, alt. 160-165 m a.s.l.
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Information Centre of the Government of Forestry (Metsähallitus). Grid 27°E 7365:603, alt. 160-165 m a.s.l.

- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Oulankajoki, Kiutaköngäs waterfall. Grid 27°E 7365:605, alt. 175-185 m a.s.l.
- 29.8.2001
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Liikasenvaara. Between the border guard station and the former farm house of Kolveikko. Roadside and lawn. Grid 27°E 7365:615, alt. 290 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Liikasenvaara. By the former farm house of Kolveikko. Roadside and meadow. Grid 27°E 7365:616, alt. 290 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Liikasenvaara. Middle SW slope of the hill Korvasvaara SE of the former farm house of Kolveikko. Rich spruce-dominated forest (partly paludified) on calcareous ground. Grid 27°E 7365:616, alt. 275-290 m a.s.l.
- 30.8.2001
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Haaralamminkangas. Along nature path. Dry and dryish pine heaths N of the camping place. Grid 27°E 7367:602, alt. 205-220 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Puukkorinne. Mesic, herb-rich depressions along the nature trail. Grid 27°E 7367:602, alt. 170-205 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park. Puukkorinne NE. Fen along the brooklet running from the pond Ryttilampi, by the nature trail. Grid 27°E 7367:602, alt. 245 m a.s.l.
- 31.8.2001
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) SALLA 5 km N of Hautajärvi, 700 m N of the Polar Circle. Bushy heath forest (Picea, Pinus, Betula etc.) E of the main road. Grid 27°E 7386:590, alt. 263 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) SALLA Oulanka. SW shore of the river Oulankajoki downstream of the bridge. Rocky and bushy mixed forests along the river. Grid 27°E 7375:589, alt. 205-220 m a.s.l.
- 1.9.2001
- ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park, W of the brook Sirkkapuro (Uopajanpuro). Dry pine heath by the forest cabin. Grid 27°E 7362:612, alt. 180-190 m a.s.l.
 - ✓ Koillismaa (Ks) KUUSAMO Oulanka National Park, lower course of the brook Sirkkapuro (Uopajanpuro). Herb-rich mixed forest along the brook (on calcareous ground). Grid 27°E 7362:612, alt. 150-170 m a.s.l.

Some of us continued their stay in Finland participating at the **The Cortinarius-symposium, XIX JEC, 2.-8.9.2001, at Sotkamo**, situated ca. 250 km SW from Oulanka.

Glossary of important terms

IPA (Important Plant Areas): The project - initially of Planta Europa - aims to identify a network of sites within each European biogeographic zone, that are critical for the long-term viability of naturally occurring wild plant populations.

For further information see:

http://www.plantaeuropa.org/html/important_plant_areas.htm

IMA (Important Mycological Area) or **IFA** (Important Fungi Area): In analogy of IPA the ECCF aims to identify important sites for fungi. As for plant the site holds significant populations of one or more species which are of global or European conservation concern. The site has an exceptionally rich flora in a European context in relation to its biogeographical zone. The site is an outstanding example of a habitat type of global or European conservation and botanical importance

IUCN: International Union for the Conservation of Nature
For further information see: <http://www.iucn.org/>
The IUCN Red list criteria are to be found under: <http://www.redlist.org/>

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE 4TH ECCF MEETING

Is it late to write it now?

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IMC 7 at Oslo

by *Claudia Perini*

Following the contacts that Maria Lawrynowicz (at that time ECCF chair) had with Leif Ryvar den in Israel during the last ICM, I wrote officially in December 1998 asking to consider the inclusion of "Conservation of Fungi" in the program of the next IMC Congress in 2002. The result: ECCF is leader of a Contributed Symposium "Conservation of Fungi" with Eef Arnolds & Anders Bohlin & me as the organizers. One the five Major Congress Themes is "Biodiversity and Conservation" and different aspects in congress- and contributed-symposiums and poster sessions are presented from Governments responses, computerized databases, micro-and macromycetes in different environments and continents.

The time is limited and the selected arguments for "our" Contributed Symposium could give only a general description on what is going on and some more specific topics.

Conservation strategies are described; new approaches for mapping macromycetes and use of fungi as indicator species are explained; some disturbances affecting mycoflora are analysed; finally the application of the "Ecological Continuity" as a new conservation criterion for fungi is proposed.

To note that seventeen years ago during the 9th Congress of European Mycologists the ECCF-work started just in Oslo! Conservation has become more and more a hotspot and fungi, thanks the hard work done by ECCF members, are more and more considered. That is a good background and a power for the future. In fungi we trust!

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European Commission

FP6 - EoI

by *Claudia Perini*

Last spring the EC asked to present “Expressions of interest to identify research actions ready for Specific Programme Topics as a basis for the preparation of work programs for the 6th Framework Programme for research”.

Stephanos Diamandis was active for ECCF, putting his contribute on the Conference on-line, his question was: “Shouldn’t “conservation of fungal biodiversity in a changing environment” be included in FP6? “ He continues... with “Only Alexander Opstal from Wageningen (March 29) seems to have expressed interest.” Finally he presented the ECCF as a very active and coherent group doing an excellent job and mentioned only a few of the people involved triggering interest in joining the effort of including fungi in FP6.

Moreover, answering at the EC request, an Expression of Interest for EC VI FP titled “Conservation of macrofungal biodiversity in the Mediterranean area” was submitted with 19 participants from the whole mediterranean area. Will see what surprises the future will bring!

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Remember the Eccf mailing list: Eccf@seiti-lists.univ-lille2.fr

Visit the new homepage: www.eccf.info (online End of August 2002)

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  New contacts, changed addresses, phones, e-mails & so on...  

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**Claudia Perini, Siena and Beatrice Senn-Irlet, WSL,
ECCF secretary, 1 August 2002**