
	<p style="text-align: center;">CODE OF ETHICS FOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FUNGARIUM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Co-ownership and Use of Genetic Data Produced by the Network for the Study of Mycological Diversity</p>	
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This Code of Ethics (hereinafter referred to as “Code”) outlines the guiding principles of conduct for contributors participating in the Network for the Study of Mycological Diversity (hereinafter “Network”) who voluntarily submit fungal specimens they own to the ISPRA fungarium and request their genetic analysis.

The contributor is aware that, through the implementation of the Network, ISPRA pursues the following institutional goals:

- advancement and dissemination of knowledge in the field of mycology;
- implementation of the national census of macrofungi;
- development of the Fungal Information System (SIF);
- establishment of the national fungarium of macrofungi;
- development of the national genetic database of macrofungi.

Therefore, contributors shall not use ISPRA to pursue private interests or benefits.

Contributors who wish to submit fungal specimens to the ISPRA fungarium for preservation and/or genetic analysis must follow the standards described in the instructions provided by the Network following approval of the fungarium submission request.

By voluntarily delivering a specimen to the fungarium, the contributor acknowledges that the sample will be registered as part of ISPRA’s preserved collection and therefore cannot be fully returned.

The specimens submitted are preserved by ISPRA at the fungarium facility registered in the Index Herbariorum. In addition, all specimens, regardless of whether genetic analysis is requested, are sampled for preservation in the ISPRA biobank.

If genetic analysis is requested, feasibility and timelines will be evaluated and determined by designated ISPRA personnel in accordance with institutional goals, internal organization, and incoming requests.

The contributor understands that ISPRA’s genetic analysis unit does not operate as a public service facility.

Relations between ISPRA personnel and the contributor shall be based on mutual trust and respectful cooperation.

The contributor shall refrain from exerting undue pressure, shall not interfere with institutional activities related to the preservation and analysis of specimens, and shall avoid creating or benefiting from privileged situations.

Genetic analysis results will be sent to the contributor only after all internal ISPRA quality control procedures have been completed to ensure data reliability.

Upon receiving the results, the contributor has 30 days to submit any observations. In the absence of a response, a reminder will be sent and an additional 10 days granted. After this period, the result is considered final.

The contributor may use the genetic sequence provided by ISPRA via email for personal study or elaboration, provided that any results are shared and discussed in advance with ISPRA. Any form of dissemination or publication is subject to prior scientific validation by ISPRA, which will participate as co-author. Therefore, the contributor acknowledges that requesting a genetic analysis entails shared authorship with ISPRA personnel of any resulting scientific products.

In any separate publications concerning the examined fungal taxon, both the contributor and ISPRA must properly acknowledge collaboration with the Network, in a manner to be agreed upon with the other authors.

The genetic data obtained will be submitted by ISPRA to the relevant genetic databases as part of the scientific collaboration process with the contributor, or in case of no response within the established deadlines. The Network guarantees the co-authorship of the contributor for the submitted genetic data.

The Network also ensures the contributor's intellectual property rights and authorship of the discovery of any new species.

The contributor is bound by confidentiality obligations regarding the genetic data received from the Network until they are published in the aforementioned databases and in the Fungal Information System (SIF).

All communication between the contributor and ISPRA personnel takes place via the following email address:

ndm-fungarium@isprambiente.it

The contributor declares that there are no conflicts of interest that could affect the results obtained or the interpretations provided.

Date:

Signature for acceptance
