

Curriculum vitae

Personal data

Name: AIGNON

First Name: Loughbégnon Hyppolite

Date and Place of Birth: 02 Août 1991 Aklampa (Benin)

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Education

I am a PhD student in Monitoring and Conservation of Biodiversity at the University of Parakou in Benin (West Africa). In 2018, I obtained a Msc in the management of Natural Resources of the same faculty. From 2015 to 2017, I participated in various training and short-term internships (1) University of Parakou (October 2015) on the management and sustainable use of non-timber forest products, (2) the University of Parakou (August 2016) on the harvest, treatment, conservation and anatomo-morphological characterization of fungi in tropical Africa, (3) University of Kara (September 2017) on the effect and consequences of climate change on wild mushrooms and (4) to Uppsala University (November 2017) on the molecular identification of fungi. I obtained a BSc in 2013 in the management of Natural Resources at the Faculty Agronomy of Parakou University (Benin, West Africa).

Current Work

Currently we are conducting the ecological work as part of our PhD studies on the diversity, morphology molecular taxonomy, phylogeography and evolution of the family Inocybaceae (Basidiomycota, Fungi) in West Africa. In this context, the fungal species were collected in the forest formations of Benin. They have been characterized morphologically and anatomically on the one hand. Molecular analyzes were conducted on 35 species morphologically different and we have 83 sequences ITS, LSU and RPB2 combined.

Previous Work

Since June 2015 until today, I am Research Assistant in the Laboratory of Ecology, Botany and Plant Biology, which mainly deals with the ecology of forest species and fungi. The mycological unit is involved in several work in mycology. It is 1-: Method of evaluation of the fungal diversity in Okpara forest; 2-: Evaluation of the effects of climate change on the fine-scale distribution of ectomycorrhizal fungi in Ouémé supérieur forest reserve in North Benin in 2015 with Martin Ryberg (Systematic Biology, Department of Organizational Biology, Uppsala University); 3-: Ethnomycological studies and identification of the most consumed edible wild mushrooms and identification of wild edible fungi most consumed in the Monts-Kouffè region in Benin.

In addition to:

2012-2014: I worked as a research assistant at the Laboratory of Forestry Studies and Research of the Faculty of Agronomy at the University of Parakou. I was in charge of the monograph and characterization of non-timber forest products in Benin and their exploitation by local inhabitants.

Professional experience

April 2019: Molecular Biology Training & Open Labware Building Workshop, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin Republic, West Africa.

June to July 2018: Field data collection and molecular biology training with miniPCR by Uppsala University (Sweden).

November 2017 to December 2017: Internship on methods of DNA extraction, sequencing, molecular taxonomy for the efficient identification of tree and fungus species at Uppsala University (Sweden).

August 2016: Training for the improvement of botanical and mycological skills in tropical Africa, organized by the University of Parakou and the University of Frankfurt.

June 2015 to October 2015: training of the farmers on the recognition and protection of wild edible mushrooms (N'Dali and Djougou town in Benin).

June 2015 to September 2015: Mycological and dendrometric data collection in the Ouémé Supérieur forest reserve to evaluate the effects of climate change on fungi.

Projects

1. The Rufford Foundation: grant N° 25978-1

Investigating the spatial distribution of fungal diversity: a step toward the global conservation action of fungi in Benin (West Africa)

This project of conservation aims to: 1) Establish a database for the monitoring of fungi in Benin; 2) Analysis the distribution of mushrooms; 3) Detect rare species and hotspots of fungal diversity, 4) Produce and reforest symbiotic trees to strengthen the habitat of the five most endangered species of fungi in Benin and 5) Sensitize local populations for the conservation of mushrooms. it was funded by Rufford. (https://www.rufford.org/projects/aignon_lougbégnon_hyppolite).

2. Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund: grant N° 182513438

Habitat restoration of three endangered fungi species in Benin (*Afroboletus luteolus*, *Strobilomyces echinatus* and *Cantharellus congolensis*)

The restoration of degraded habitats will undoubtedly help save endangered forest resources such as fungi: This project aims to: (1) enrich the forest area of occupancy of three fungi species highly endangered in Benin (*Afroboletus luteolus*, *Strobilomyces echinatus* and *Cantharellus congolensis*) by tree species such as *Lonchocarpus sericeus*, *Berlinia grandiflora* and *Pterocarpus santalinoides* (2) evaluate the distribution and demography of the populations of three fungi species highly endangered in Benin specially in the gallery forest of Bassila, gallery forest Kota and Birni forest reserve, (3) establish an educational program for the conservation and sustainable for the fungi species threatened in Benin . This project was funded by Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund.

I certify the information mentioned above sincerely and accurately.

Parakou, February 10, 2020



Loubégnon Hyppolite AIGNON