

Strategic Scientific Workshop funded by the Bayreuth Humboldt Centre:

Establishing a publicly accessible global online database on stable isotope abundance of mycoheterotrophic plants

As scheduled, the Strategic Scientific Workshop was held on 10 to 11 September 2022 in Schloss Thurnau.

Participants of the workshop

- UBT main applicant **Prof. Dr. Gerhard Gebauer**: BayCEER – Laboratory of Isotope Biogeochemistry
- UBT co-applicant **Prof. Dr. Johanna Pausch**: Agroecology
- Main collaborative partner **Prof. Dr. Martin Bidartondo**: Imperial College London, UK
- Main collaborative partner **Prof. Dr. Vincent Merckx**: Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, NL, 2020 International Senior Fellow of the Bayreuth Humboldt Centre
- UBT Guest Scientist and collaborator with BayCEER-IBG **Dr. Sofia Gomes**: University of Leiden, NL
- UBT collaborator **Dr. Stefan Holzheu**: BayCEER IT and database systems group
- UBT collaborator **M.Sc. Franziska Zahn**: BayCEER-IBG PhD student and current database curator

The small, but in its individual competence ideally complementary group of in total seven participants started the workshop discussion with essential basic topics on the scheduled online database format, organization of the future database management, on quality control and on regulations for access authorisation. After agreements on these basic topics an intensive discussion followed on requirements for supporting information as part of the database. This second round of discussion was successfully finished with a detailed list of items to be included in the database. A third round of discussion addressed the advertising of the database. The participants agreed on envisaging a shared publication with database application examples in a highly ranked international journal.

The workshop was finished with agreements by all participants on taking over individual explicit tasks for the further database development and agreements on a timetable for each step until publication of the database and an accompanying paper by all participants. The participants agreed to envisage the database publication until end of 2023. Minutes on the major agreements of the workshop were circulated among all participants. A preliminary database name was established. Regular TEAMS meetings of all contributors were planned to report on the progress with the database.

All workshop participants explicitly appreciated the excellent working conditions in a cosy atmosphere in Schloss Thurnau that allowed a full-time focus on a densely filled two-day workshop program with a rather promising outcome. The workshop was finished by an excellently guided tour through the historical castle of Thurnau. All participants expressed their great gratitude to the Bayreuth Humboldt Centre for funding this workshop within the Strategic Scientific Workshop programme.



Figure 1. Workshop participants (from left to right):
First row: Dr. Sofia Gomes, Prof. Dr. Gerhard Gebauer, Dr. Stefan Holzheu
Second row: Prof. Dr. Vincent Merckx, Prof. Dr. Martin Bidartondo
Third row: M.Sc. Franziska Zahn, Prof. Dr. Johanna Pausch



Figure 2. Round table discussions in the cosy atmosphere of the Thurnau Castle.