

Ulloa M., Hahlin T.T. 2000. Illustrated Dictionary of Mycology.
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Like other areas of biology, mycology has an extensive terminology that has developed over many decades. The knowledge of terminology is extremely important in understanding the multiplication and developmental cycles of fungi being in their various phases of sexual and asexual life phases. A proper use of technical terms is especially needed while describing new species.

This book will be an extremely useful source of valuable information to all persons engaged in studies of plant diseases as it contains over 3,800 terms for which definitions are given, along with the etymological derivations of these terms.

There are of course, other dictionaries of mycology such as "A Glossary of Mycology" by W.H. Snell and E.A. Dick (1957) or "Ainsworth and Bisby's Dictionary of Fungi" 8th edited by D.L. Hawksworth, P.M. Kirk, B.C. Sutton and D.N. Pegler (1995). However, the main valid feature of the present volume is 1,332 illustrations (774 photographs and 548 drawings). These illustrations are inserted into the text near the term(s) to which they refer and are very helpful to interpret many terms.

Although the authors explain that this dictionary is not taxonomically oriented, they provide two appendices:

(1) "Outline of classification of included taxa (to genus level)" within kingdoms: Fungi (Chytridiomycota, Zygomycota, Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and Deuteromycetes); Stramenophila (Oomycota, Hyphochytriomycota, Labyrinthulomycota); Protista (Plasmodiophoromycota, Dictyosteliomycota, Acrasiomycota, Myxomycota). This system is taken from two books: "Introductory Mycology" (Alexopoulos et al. 1996) and "Ainsworth and Bisby's Dictionary of the Fungi" (8th ed., 1995).

(2) "Phylum Ascomycota: Appendage to the outline of Classification" with new classification proposed by Eriksson and Winka (1997), which is based primarily on molecular data. I recommend this book to all biological and agricultural libraries.

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