**Mycology Research Laboratory**

The **Mycology Research laboratory** was established in 2013 at Western Regional centre of BSI with a view to furnish the knowledge on living fungi. Fungal specimens/cultures of Indian origin and newly reported taxa (including new genera, new species, new records) are maintained at BSI WRC Pune to ensure ex-situ conservation of microbial diversity.

**Main objectives and activities:**

1. Collection, isolation and identification of fungal specimens/cultures.

2. Description of new genera and species of fungi in India.

3. Taxonomic characterization of different groups of fungal specimens.

4. Conservation, Preservation and maintenance of fungal specimens/cultures.

5. Documentation of fungal herbarium specimens/cultures.

6. Providing national identification service to mycologists, plant pathologists, scientists and researchers throughout the country.

7. To supply authentic fungal cultures and related services to scientists working in research Institutions, Universities for teaching, demonstration and investigational purposes

The Myco lab is preserving more than 500 fungal cultures isolated from various forest areas of Western Ghats. The lab is also providing hands on training in Mycological techniques such as preparation of growth media, various isolation procedures, inoculations, maintaining of Fungal cultures etc.