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Measuring Fungal Growth

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Works for me

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Bark Beetle Mycobiome Research Coordination Network

ABSTRACT

This protocol describes how to measure fungal growth.

This protocol is part of the Bark Beetle Mycobiome (BBM) Research Coordination Network. For more information on the BBM international network: Hulcr J, Barnes I, De Beer ZW, Duong TA, Gazis R, Johnson AJ, Jusino MA, Kasson MT, Li Y, Lynch S, Mayers C, Musvuugwa T, Roets F, Seltmann KC, Six D, Vanderpool D, & Villari C. 2020. Bark beetle mycobiome: collaboratively defined research priorities on a widespread insect-fungus symbiosis. *Symbiosis* 81: 101–113 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13199-020-00686-9>.

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1. Petri dish with the culture you want to measure;
2. Stereomicroscope with camera attached and software to make measurements;

Measuring Diameter

Carefully place the Petri dish of the fungal culture you want to measure on the stereomicroscope stage. Center it and adjust the focus. Select the measurement tool > straight line.

Draw a line from one side of the culture to another and record the length.

Measuring area

Carefully place the Petri dish of the fungal culture you want to measure on the stereomicroscope stage. Center it and adjust the focus. Select measure tool > area. Carefully draw a line around the fungal culture, respecting the fungal culture edges and record the length.

Both can be done every day, every other day, once a week or according to each specific need.