

Sujan Balami

Postdoctoral Research Fellow | Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences



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Professional summary

Highly motivated and results-driven ecologist with 7 years of experience on plant and soil microbiome. Skilled in molecular techniques including next-generation sequencing (NGS) methods. Proficient in analyzing NGS data as well as phylogenetic analysis. Published research and review articles in SCI listed journals and gathered experience in meta-analysis. Have strong collaborative spirit and passionate about conducting innovative research that drives scientific breakthroughs.

Education

Ph.D. in Botany (2017/10–2023/05) University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic

M.Sc. in Botany (2011/12–2015/10) Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

B.Sc. in Botany (2008/10–2011/05) | Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Work experiences

- Teaching assistant of Botany (2022/09–2023/05 and 2015/11–2017/09) | Amrit Campus, Tribhuvan University
- Molecular lab technician (2019/02–2019/04) | University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
- Research assistant (2018/02–2018/03) | CzechGlobe–Global Change Research Institute, Czech Academy of Science, České Budějovice, Czech Republic

Publications

- **Balami S**, Vašutová M, Chaudhary V, Cudlín P. (2023) How do root fungi recover during spontaneous succession of abandoned agricultural land. *Mycorrhiza* 33: 321–332
- **Balami S**, Vašutová M, Košnar J, Karki R, Khadka C, Tripathi G, Cudlín P (2021) Soil fungal communities in abandoned agricultural land has not yet moved towards the seminatural forest. *Forest Ecology and Management* 491:119181.
- **Balami S**, Vašutová M, Godbold D, Kotas P, Cudlín P (2020) Soil fungal communities across land use types. *iForest-Biogeosciences and Forestry* 13:548–558.
- **Balami S**, Thapa LB, Jha SK (2019) Effects of invasive *Ageratina adenophora* on mycelial growth of some important soil fungi. *Songklanakarin Journal of Science & Technology* 41:465–470.
- **Balami S**, Thapa LB, Jha SK (2017) Effect of invasive *Ageratina adenophora* on species richness and composition of saprotrophic and pathogenic soil fungi. *BIOTROPIA-The Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Biology* 24:212–219.
- **Balami S**, Thapa LB (2017) Herbivory damage in native *Alnus nepalensis* and invasive *Ageratina adenophora*. *Botanica Orientalis: Journal of Plant Science* 11:7–11.

- **Balami S**, Thapa LB, Jha SK (2017) Sterilization effect of *Ageratina adenophora* invaded soil on root growth of native *Schima wallichii*. *Physiological Ecology and Environmental Science* 8:25–30.
- Mo Y, Zou H, Hu H, Li S, Lu H, Pu X, Zhang Y, **Balami S**, Li Y, Hu T, Song L, Liu W (2024) Strangler fig–host tree associations: Insights into the ecology and management of tropical urban green spaces. *Plants People Planet*.
- Hu H, Mo Y, **Balami S**, Mendieta-Leiva G, Shen T, Haq SM, Song L (2024) Combining critical transition indicator to compare the stable structure of epiphyte–host networks. *Ecological Indicators* 166:112470.
- Adhikari HS, Magar GT, **Balami S** (2024) *Laetiporus sulphureus* in the mid-hills of Central Nepal: ecology, ethnomycology and present status. *Our Nature* 22:10–18.
- Awasthi M, Pokhrel C, You YH, **Balami S**, Kunwar R, Thapa S, Kim EJ, Park JW, Park JH, Lee JM, Kim YS (2023) Comparative assessment of ethnobotany and antibacterial activity of *Moringa oleifera* Lam. in Nepal. *Ethnobotany Research and Applications* 25:1–3.
- Chaudhary S, Magar GT, Shrestha S, **Balami S** (2022) Peoples' Perception on Invasive Alien Plant Species of Ramdhuni Municipality, Sunsari District, Eastern Nepal. *Amrit Research Journal* 3:1–9.
- Bhatta SP, Sharma KP, **Balami S** (2018) Variation in carbon storage among tree species in the planted forest of Kathmandu, Central Nepal. *Current Science* 115:274–282.
- Jha SK, **Balami S** (2016) Nutritive value of some wild edible macrofungi from Devdaha, Rupandehi district, Nepal. *Journal of Biodiversity Conservation and Bioresource Management (JBCBM)* 2:21–27.

Manuscripts

- **Balami S**, Hua F, Mo Y, Shi X, Hu H, Hu Y, Song L. Vegetation restoration brings positive changes in soil fungal communities but not sufficiently to approximate reference sites. *Submitted to Journal of Applied Ecology*
- **Balami S**, Mo Y, Hu H, Shi X, Song L. Improvement in microbial nutrient acquisition after restoration of rubber monoculture: Evidence from soil enzyme activities. *In preparation*
- **Balami S**, Shi X, Hu H, Mo Y, Song L. Soil fungal community dynamics during artificial and natural restoration of tropical rainforest from rubber monoculture. *In preparation*

Conferences and symposia

- Poster presentation ‘Postdoctoral Conference’ (2023) | -Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden
- Poster presentation ‘Festival of Ecology’ (2020) | British Ecological Society
- Papers and poster presentation ‘International Conference on Biodiversity, Climate Change Assessment and Impacts on Livelihood’ (2017) | Central Department of Botany
- Participation ‘Interaction Program on Promotion of Scientific Concept’ (2017) | Government of Nepal, Ministry of Science and Technology, B.P Koirala Memorial Planetarium, Observatory, and Science Museum Development Board
- Paper presentation ‘The 7th National Conference on Science and Technology’ (2016) | Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
- Participation ‘National Symposium on Pesticides Pollution’ (2014) | Kathmandu University and University Grant Commission, Nepal

Grants

- The Yunnan Province CaiYun Postdoctoral Program 2024 [Grant amount: ~6000 \$]
- The Zhi Hui Yunnan Program [Grant amount: ~12000 \$]
- The Postdoctoral Talent Project of the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences [Grant amount: ~16000 \$]

Scholarships

- Doctoral Scholarship (2017–2022) | University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic
- Master Scholarship (2012–2013) | Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Awards

- Gold Medal ‘Vidhyabhusan Kha’ (2017) | Government of Nepal
- Professor B.D. Pandey Memorial Award (2016) | Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University
- Gold Medal & Certificate of Merit (2011) | Amrit Campus, Tribhuvan University
- Prabha Parajuli Cash Award (2011) | Amrit Campus, Tribhuvan University

Training

- The 7th Advance Statistics Workshop | Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Professional activities

- Reviewer | Scientific Reports, Plant Ecology, Tropical Life Science Journal, Journal of Tropical Ecology, Journal of Chemical Ecology etc.
- Promotional editor (2022/11–Present) | Nepal Journal of Biotechnology
- Editor (March 2017) | Newsletter “Headlines Himalaya” from Environmental Graduates of Himalayas (EGH), Resource Himalaya Foundation
- Mentor | 1 MSc student and 2 BSc Botany students of Amrit Campus, IOST, TU
- Internship (May 2019) | University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria
- Vice-president (2017) | Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development Society (NCDS), Nepal
- Member (2013) | Botanical Student Society (BoSS), Central Department of Botany, TU
- Member | Applied Microbiology International