

Dr David Smith PhD MIBIOL CIBIOL DIC
Director Biological Resources, CABI Europe UK

Joined CABI in 1974 as a preservation technologist working in the Commonwealth Mycological Institute. Over a 35 year career developed expertise in the operation and management of living microbial resource collections, preservation technology and development of operational procedures for BRCs. Gained a PhD with Imperial College London University in the long-term preservation of fungi became Curator of CABI Genetic Resources Collection in 1987. Research areas include the freeze-drying of microorganisms, the optimisation of cryopreservation techniques and cryogenic light microscopy for fungi. Have a keen interest in policy concerning microorganisms access, handling and use, codes of practice for working within the Convention of Biological Diversity and the production of Quality Management Systems for Microbial Resource Collections. Appointed Director of Biological Resources in 2006 with the role of operations manager for CABI's Bioservices, responsible for the collection, identification, industrial services and a small research team. Played a key role in the OECD Biological Resource Centre (BRC) Initiative Task Force, currently seconded to Germany as General Manager of the Global Biological Resource Centre Network (GBRCN) Demonstration Project Secretariat and President of the World Federation for Culture Collections WFCC (2004-2010)

Societies and activities

President of the World Federation for Culture Collections (WFCC) 2004 to 2010
Past President of the European Culture Collection Organisation (ECCO)
President of the United Kingdom Federation for Culture Collections (UKFCC) 1999-2007
Visiting Lecturer: University of Kent and University of Reading
Registered British Council Consultant
Referee to the BBSRC for project proposals (from March 1995)
Referee/review papers and books for 7 Journals/societies
Member of the World Federation for Culture Collections Steering Group for the World Data Center for Microorganisms.
Secretariat of the UK National Culture Collection (UKNCC).
Member of the UK Delegation to the OECD Biological Resource Centre Initiative Task Force

Key Publications

- Lyal, C., Kirk, P.M., Smith, R. & **Smith, D.** (2008). The value of taxonomy to biodiversity and agriculture. *Biodiversity & Agriculture*, Special Issue, **9**, 8-13.
- Ryan, J.M., Jeffries, P. & Smith, D. (2001). Developing cryopreservation protocols to secure fungal gene function. *Cryoletters* **22**, 115-124.
- Smith, D., M.J. Ryan & J.G. Day. (eds) (2001). The UK National Culture Collection Biological Resource: Properties, maintenance and management. pp 382. UK National Culture Collection, Egham.
- Smith, D. & Ryan, M.J. (2004). Current status of culture collections and their role in biotechnology. *Handbook of Fungal Biotechnology*, Second edition, edited by Dilip K. Arora, Paul D. Bridge and Deepak Bhatnagar. New York: Marcel Dekker. pp 527-538.
- Smith, D. & Ryan, M.J. (2004). Fungal genetic resource centres and the genomic challenge. *Mycological Research* **108**, 1351-1362.
- Smith, D. & Rohde, C. (2007) Biological Resource Centres and compliance with the law. UK: Society for Microbiology http://www.sgm.ac.uk/pubs/micro_today/pdf/0299brc.pdf
- Smith, D & Ryan, M.J. (2008). The impact of OECD best practice on the validation of cryopreservation techniques for microorganisms. *Cryoletters* **29**, 63-72.
- Smith, D.** & Ryan, M.J. & Stackebrandt, E. (2008) The *ex situ* conservation of microorganisms: aiming at a certified quality management. In *Biotechnology* [Eds. Horst W.Doelle, Edgar J.DaSilva], in *Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS)*. Developed under the Auspices of the UNESCO, Eolss Publishers, Oxford, UK [<http://www.eolss.net>]