QMS Springbrook Weekend – November 2008

Report by Megan Prance and Sapphire McMullan-Fisher

On the weekend 28-30 November 2009 QMS members: Annitta Hearle, Gretchen Evans, James Hansen, Klaus Querengasser, Lil Spadijer, Megan Prance, Ruth Thomson, Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, Till Lohmeyer, and Dr Uta Kunkele stayed at the Mountain lodge, Springbrook.

Dr Aila Keto and Till Lohmeyer. Photo by M Prance

The Queensland Government has bought back a number of properties with the aim of returning it to native rainforest and including these in the Springbrook National Park. The Australian Rainforest Conservation Society (ARCS) is managing the land this is called the “Springbrook Rescue Project”. We were hosted by Dr Aila Keto and Dr Keith Scott, the dynamic forces behind the Springbrook Rescue Project.

Three sites were surveyed during the weekend. On Friday evening a brief survey of ‘The Lodge Loop’, which was below the Mountain Lodge where we were staying. Saturday morning took us down Repeater Station Road to the Stevenson’s property. A few specimens were recorded along the way. At Stevenson’s we followed a switchback path almost down to the creek. Sunday took us to ‘Warblers in the Mist’ property. Each of these sites was surveyed in our previous visit in May 2008.

On the Saturday evening after a delicious and convivial dinner our hosts Aila and Keith, came to the Lodge to see some of the fungi images we had taken so far – they were impressed with the diversity even though we thought it was

quiet low. Aila also gave us a presentation explaining the Springbrook rescue goals. http://www.rainforest.org.au/arcsinfo.htm

During the weekend 46 taxa were recorded (Table 1), including ten named species including five Fungimap targets: *Cyptotrama asparatum, Favolaschia calocera, Lycogala epidendrum, Marasmuis elegans, Schizophyllum commune* and *Stereum ostra*. Despite the recent rain all fungi were saprotrophs except for the tiny red parasitic fungi *Nectria* sp. We gratefully used the knowledge of Till Lohmeyer for many of our identifications. Seventeen collections were made, descriptions of these were written and these collections were dried during the weekend. Six collections will have their photographs printed out and then will be lodged at the Brisbane Herbarium (BRI). A further eleven collections need more work to identify them to at least genus before they can be lodged.

QMS and its members have been invited back to Springbrook to help with the rescue effort and to increase the knowledge about the fungi of Springbrook. If we can find a member or two who are willing to organise another trip – I'm sure we'll have another great weekend. In the meantime if individual members would like to visit to record fungi and or get involved in the revegetation efforts please contact Dr Aila Keto, President: aila.keto@rainforest.org.au.

Mycological Highlights

The find of the weekend was a delightful icicle shaped coral fungus with a lilac tint, more work needs to be done to identify the collection but it may be in the family Hericiaceae as it is similar to *Mucronella*. *Edit*: Later identified as *Deflexula fascicularis*

Image 2081129Q018KPQA057. Photo by Klaus Querengasser

We also saw what we think are two different *Campanella* species – the eccentrically attached gilled fungi have peculiar ‘pastie’-shaped spores. One taxa was smaller and had an olivaceous tint to the cap and may be *Campanella olivaceonigra* while the other was larger and paler

Image 2081129Q027KPQA132QMS0008 . Photo by Klaus Querengasser

Image 2081129Q009KPQF1 . Photo by Klaus Querengasser

Thanks to the sharp eyes and knowledge of Till Lohmeyer, most attendees got to see the tiny red parasitic fungi *Nectria* sp. We were impressed that Till spotted it – it was hard to see without the magnification of the dissecting microscope!

An exciting find at the end of the survey of the Stevenson's property was a lovely white *Stereum* which 'bleed' when touched. Till told us there were a couple of 'bleeding' *Stereum's* in Europe like *Stereum sanguinolentum.* When the photos are printed and notes completed for this collection, it will go to Gretchen Evans who is specialising in *Stereum*. Hopefully she will be able to work out if this is a named or new species for Australia. Eventually the collection will be deposited at the Brisbane Herbarium (BRI). At the February QMS meeting Diana, Ray and Noreen all remembered seeing a brown 'bleeding' *Stereum* during the IBISCA surveys at site 11.11.06 IQ1100.C1.0001 at Lamington National Park. We shall have to try and match up the two collections, and hopefully have a name once the IBISCA collections are entered in the BRI database.

Image. 2081129Q043MP3F11QMS0011. Photo by M Prance

A beautiful corticoid (patch or paint) fungus species was seen on a branch at Warblers. It was the deep purple velvety *Peniophora*.


Image.2081130Q062KPQF324QMS0016. Photo by Klaus Querengasser

One of the lowlights was seeing *Favolaschia calocera* (Common name = Orange Ping Pong Bats) at least three times on the Stevenson's property. This small weedy fungus seems to be spreading along human tracks and may be able to compete with local saprotrophic fungi because of its ability to produce antibiotics and it's broad substrate preferences (Vizzini, Zotti, Mello 2009).

Image. 2081129Q025KPQF1. Photo by Klaus Querengasser

Reference

Vizzini, A. Zotti, M. and Mello A. 2009 Alien fungal species distribution: the study case of Favolaschia calocera. Biological Invasions 11:417–429

Species list

Table 1. Summary of fungal names by site including Fungimap targets (T), fungal phyla, lifeforms and taxa, substrate and function. Locations from Springbrook: LL = Lodge loop, 317 Repeater Station Rd; S = The Stevenson's property, Repeater Station road; and W = Warblers, off Bilborough Court.

T	Phyla – Lifeform - Taxa	Substrate Classes	LL	S	W	Function
	Deuteromycota					
	Anomorph sp. 'Megans Pink'	wood 1-25 cm diam.	1	1		S
	Ascomycota					
	Nectria sp.	Parasitic on pyromycetes			1	pa
	Clubs					
	Xylaria aff. *apiculata*	wood 1-5 cm diam.	1	2		S
	Xylaria aff. *polymorpha*	wood 1-5 cm diam.		1		S
	Xylaria sp.	wood 1-5 cm diam.		1		S
	Cup & Disc fungi					
	Discomycete spp. 'yellow'	wood 1-5 cm diam.	1	6		S
	Hyaloscyphacear sp.	Frond of on a tree fern, Cyathea trunk & fronds		1		S
	Lachnum sp. white	wood 1-5 cm diam.			1	S
	Mollisia sp.	wood 1-5 cm diam.			1	S
	Myxomycota					
	Slime mould					
FM	*Lycogala epidendrum*	Wood - dead tree 40-60 cm diam.		1		S
	Basidiomycota					
	Jelly					
	Auricularia cornea	Wood		1		S

	Calocera or Dacrymycete	Wood		1		S
	Jelly fungus 'grey'	wood 1-5 cm diam.		1		S
	Jelly fungus 'pink fan form'	wood 5-25 cm diam. + mossy		1		S
	Coral & club fungi					
	Hericiaceae aff. *Mucronella*	Wood - buttress rough bark of rainforest tree		1		S
	Corticoid & Thelophores					
	Byssomerulius sp.	wood 5 - 25 cm diam.			1	S
	Corticoid sp. 'cream'	wood 5 - 25 cm diam.		1		S
	Peniophora sp.	wood 1-5 cm diam.			1	S
FM	*Stereum ostra*	wood 5 - 25 cm diam.		2		S
	Stereum sp. 'bleeding'	wood 5 - 25 cm diam.		1		S
	Eccentric & stipitate					
FM	*Favolaschia calocera*	wood 5-25 cm diam.		3		S
	Gilled fungi					
	Coprinus sp.	wood 5-25 cm diam.		1		S
FM	*Cyptotrama asparatum*	Wood <1 - 1 cm diam.	1	2		S
	Lepiota sp.	soil		1		S
	Marasmius spp.	Litter - leaves Leptospermum sp.; wood 1-5 cm diam		1	1	S
FM	*Marasmuis elegans*			1		S
	Mycena spp.	Bark Eucalypt; Wood <1 - 1 cm diam.; Leaf litter		4	1	S
	Psythyrella sp.	Wood		1		S
	Stropharia spp.	Dung - herbivore			1	S
	Gills - eccentric					
	Agaric aff. *Crepidotus*	wood	2			S
	Campenella sp. 'larger'	Wood <1 - 1 cm diam.		2		S
	Campenella aff. *olivaceonigra*	wood	1	1		S
	Crepidotus aff. *eucalyptorum*	wood 5-25 cm diam.		1		S

	Gymnopilus eucalyptorum complex	wood 5 - 25 cm diam		1		S
	Melanotus hepatochrous	wood - woody liane <1 - 3 cm diam.; wood 1-5 cm diam.	1	2		S
	Melanotus aff. *hepatochrous* 'pale form'	Wood <1 - 1 cm diam.; Butress of tree		1		S
FM	*Schizophyllum commune*	wood 5 - 25 cm diam.			1	S
	Polypores					
	Brackets & eccentric					
	Ganoderma sp.	Tree > 25 cm diam.			1	S
	Polypore spp.	wood 1 - 25 cm diam.		1	1	S
	Pycnoporus coccineus	wood 1-5 cm diam. - Leptospermum sp.			1	S
	Stecchericium/Trametes spp.	wood 1-5 cm diam. - Leptospermum sp.			1	S
	Trametes hirsuta	wood 1-5 cm diam. - Leptospermum sp.			1	S
	Tyromyces sp.	wood 1-5 cm diam. - Leptospermum sp.			1	S
	Phellinus spp.	wood 5 - 25 cm diam. - Leptospermum sp.			1	S
	Polypore - stipitate					
	Microporus sp. 'aff. young xanthopus'	wood 1-5 cm diam.		1		S
	Stinkhorns					
	Stinkhorn - immature	soil		1		S