**Poster abstract guidelines**

**State of the World’s Fungi Symposium**

**13–14 September 2018**

**Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**

Please prepare your abstract according to the following format and email it to sotwf@kew.org by **Thursday 9 August 2018**. Abstracts prepared in the incorrect format or missing any of the required information will not be accepted. An example abstract is shown on the next page, for guidance.

**Poster title:** bold font, sentence case

**Authors’ names:** Surname followed by initials. Underline the name of the presenting author (e.g. Smith, R.J., Rozario, L.A. & Tanimoto, M.)

**Author affiliations:** Institution and country (separated by a comma). Where more than one institution is involved, please use superscript numbers after each of the authors’ names and list the affiliations directly below.

**Abstract body text:** 250 words maximum, left justified, single line spacing

**Poster category:** Please assign you poster to one of the following categories:

* Conservation of fungi
* Useful fungi
* Newly discovered fungi
* Climate change and impact on fungal communities
* Fungal pathogens
* Positive fungal-plant interactions
* Fungal genomes
* China (country focus)
* Fungal tree of life
* Definition and diversity
* Lichens
* Ecosystem services
* Dark taxa
* Policy

**Poster competition:** If you would like to enter our poster competition for early career researchers, please indicate whether you are either:

1. a student
2. an early career postdoc (within five years of completing your PhD)

Example abstract for guidance:

**Plant-fungal interactions in alpine ecosystems**

Arraiano-Castilho, R.1,2, Bidartondo, M.I.1,2, Niskanen, T.1, Clarkson, J.1, Brunner, I.3, Zimmerman, S.3, Senn-Irlett, B.3, Peintner, U.4, Gramlich, S.5, Mrak, T.6 & Martinez-suz, L.1

1 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK

2 Imperial College London, UK

3 Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Switzerland

4 University of Innsbruck, Austria

5 University Göttingen, Germany

6 Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia

Alpine plant and fungal communities are models for understanding pioneer communities, the primary components of resilient ecosystems. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to organismal and functional diversity, yet little is known about its potential impacts on plant-fungal interactions. In alpine habitats, ectomycorrhizal (ECM) fungi are an essential functional guild as they are the main mutualists of the dominant woody perennial vegetation and play a fundamental role in carbon and nutrient cycling. Ectomycorrhizal fungi are required for the establishment of pioneer trees after environmental perturbations and therefore perform a key function in ecosystem resilience. Baseline diversity data on these fungal communities and their environmental drivers are needed in the face of climate change.

We aim to:

* study ECM fungal communities associated with different alpine plants across the Alps,
* elucidate the biotic and abiotic factors affecting their diversity and distribution and,
* study ECM communities associated with closely related species and their hybrids in alpine ecosystems.

We sampled mycorrhizal roots, fruitbodies and soil associated with Dryas octopetala, Bistorta vivipara and Salix herbacea across five countries in the Alps. We also collected mycorrhizal communities from individuals of Salix purpurea, S. helvetica and their hybrids in an alpine glacier forefield in Switzerland.

We expect to:

* identify alpine ECM species or species assemblages unique to alpine ecosystems,
* reveal their environmental drivers and threats,
* generate a DNA database of alpine fungi for barcoding and phylogenetic analyses and,
* gain a better insight into the ECM communities associated with sister plant species and their intermediates.

**Poster category:** Climate change

**Poster competition:** Student entry