

ABSTRACT

Macrofungi are diverse species of fungi. They are organisms that have an ecological importance to other organisms. Like most fungi, these organisms are consisted of mycelium (a mass of thin, microscopic threads) growing in soil. They live in the soil or other substrates where they decompose materials which make them important in forests because they help break down dead organic material into simple compounds that are useful for plants. Thus, they act as recyclers, but some can also be pathogens. The study entitled Taxonomic Survey of macroscopic fungi at Mt. Batulao, Nasugbu, Batangas, determined the species of macrofungi present at the area, and the factors affecting their Relative Abundance such as substrate, temperature and elevation. The study was done in Mt. Batulao, Nasugbu, Batangas in the months of July and August in the year 2006. The area was divided into 6 collecting stations. The collection of samples was done using the convenient method. The macrofungi species were collected by the use of a trowel and small knife, depending on the substrate. The collected samples were then placed in plastic containers and were labeled. The researcher identified the samples initially by using books, and materials from the Philippine National Herbarium. Then the samples were presented to the mycologist at the same institution for final verification. The species were verified up to their species level. A total of 10 samples were collected and identified, belonging to 8 families. Most of the collected samples were found on dead tree parts. The elevations where macrofungi were most abundant was at 572 meters above sea level, and 605 meters above sea level. The temperature that was found to have the most number of macrofungi thriving was at 20° Celsius.