

BOOK REVIEW**Title : An Introduction to Mycology(Second Edition)****Authors: K.R. Aneja and R.S. Mehrotra****Publishers: New Age International (P) Limited, New Delhi****Year of Publication: 2015****Price: Rs. 399/-**

An Introduction to Mycology second edition by K. R. Aneja, former Professor & Chairman, Department of Microbiology and R. S. Mehrotra, former Professor, Department of Botany, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, India is outcome of the inputs given by students, teachers and over four decades of teaching and research experience of both the authors in the field of Mycology. It has been written to cater to the needs of graduate and post graduate students studying the subject of Mycology. It is a good compilation on the various groups of fungi, fungal allies, anamorphic fungi, Lichens and *Myxomycota* (*Protozoa*), along with some chapters on general topics. The 29 chapters in this book have been divided into two parts. Morphology and relationships of Fungi have been discussed in Part I, whereas Ecology and Economic Importance in Part II. Of the 26 chapters in Part I, Introduction, Classification and Historical roots of Mycology have been discussed in chapters 1 and 2 respectively. The Kingdom Fungi has been divided into four Phyla [*Chytridiomycota* (chapter 3), *Zygomycota* (chapters 4 and 5, *Ascomycota* (chapters 6 to 11) and *Basidiomycota* (chapters 12 to 15)] pertaining to the true fungi and chapter 16 on Anamorphic fungi (*Deuteromycetes*).The authors have given account of phyla *Oomycota*, *Hyphochytridiomycota* and *Labyrinthulomycota* (chapters 18, 19 and 20, respectively) under kingdom *Straminipila/Chromista*, whereas phyla

Dictyosteliomycota, *Acrasiomycota* and *Myxomycota* (chapters 21, 22, 23 and 24, respectively) have been discussed under kingdom *Protozoa*. In addition to all this the authors have also given account on Lichens in chapter 16 and general topics Heterothallism, Heterokaryosis and Parasexual cycle and Fungal Hormones, Physiological Specialization Phylogeny under chapters 25 and 26, respectively. Part II of this book deals with Role of Fungi as Saprotrophs (chapter 27), Fungi in Pathological relations with other Organisms (chapter 28), Industrial and Biotechnological Applications of Fungi (chapter 29). The authors have also given an Appendix of Classification of Fungi and Fungi-like Protists based on Circa-2009 and alphabetical Index. The Review Questions and selected References at the end of each chapter will be of immense value to the students. The diagrams pertaining to different organisms and life cycles are of good quality, but colored diagrams can further enhance the outlook and understanding. The most important aspect of cost of the book and its affordability by the students has been taken care of by the authors. With the improvement in the quality of paper and printing it will meet the international standards. The book covers the latest concept of fungi. I am sure that it will be of immense utility to all undergraduate and postgraduate students and teachers of Mycology. I complement the authors and the publishers for bringing out this valuable academic contribution.

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