

GENERAL BOTANY Lecture 29 - Higher Fungi

IV (Continued from last time) - Types of fungi

(Continued from last time) - Kingdom Fungi (Mycota): characteristics - Hyphae & mycelium

- A. Phylum Zygomycota (the zygote sits around ZZZZZZZZZZ!)

----- THE HIGHER FUNGI START HERE -----

- B. Phylum Ascomycota - it has to ASK for a partner)

- C. Phylum Basidiomycota "B" - Puffballs, Bracket fungi, mushrooms)

- Elaborate structures referred to as basidiocarps; distinguishing characteristic – the four nuclei (after meiosis) are carried on separate stalks called sterigmata; cell undergoing meiosis and producing spores are called basidium and the spores are called basidiospores

1. (Class) Homobasidiomycetes - elaborate basidiocarps

- a) Cell walls contain chitin, hyphae are septate, sexual reproduction is highly developed (asexual also occurs)

- b) Sexual reproduction - conjugation (fusion) of hyphae produces a dikaryon (N + N) [the dikaryon can last up to centuries]

- 1) Homothallic - conjugation with self or others

- 2) Heterothallic - conjugation only with others

- 3) N + N mycelium divides and maintains N + N condition

- 4) N + N phase gives rise to spore bearing body called basidiocarp (the mushroom, puff ball, etc.)

- 5) Stalk = stipe, cap (umbrella) = pileus, underside contents = hyphae with large number of basidia, gills = fleshy-looking plates radiated out from the stalk

- 6) In basidia, nuclei fuse and immediately undergo meiosis to make haploid cells

- a) Sterigmata form at the tip of basidium and haploid nuclei escape to make spores (up to a million a minute for several days!)

- 7) Order Agaricales: some are poisonous, some aren't

- 8) Variations include gills, pores, and brackets (conk)

2. (Class) Heterobasidiomycetes - basidiocarps not very elaborate

- a) Heteroecious - have more than one host (i.e., rust requires barberry & wheat)

- 1) Mycelium develops in tissue of host to make pustules called spermagonia - these get cut off to make spermatia

- 2) Spermatia go by wind to receptive hyphae - an N + N mycelium results (note genetic diversity)

- 3) Mycelium forms pustules called aecia which form N + N aeciospores

- 4) Aeciospores escape and invade wheat (through stomata)

- 5) In wheat, N + N uredospores form in uredia (and invade wheat)

- 6) During winter, teliospores are produced by mycelium

- 7) Fusion occurs in teliospores during winter and meiosis leads to new haploid cells that put out a short hypha in the spring

- b) Autoecious - have only one host

- 1) Haploid stuff, conjugation, N + N mycelium, N + N spores formed, over winter nuclei fuse, spring meiosis, haploid basidiospores

- c) Examples: rust and smut

- D. Phylum Deuteromycota - Fungi Imperfecti - "Retarded dude"

1. No known reproductive cycle - can not be considered ascomycetes or basidiomycetes

2. Examples include Penicillium and Aspergillus

V. Lichens - algae and fungi

- A. Symbiotic - algae provides food; fungus provides moisture, shelter, & minerals