

PREFACE

Taiwan is a treasure island. It locates in tropical and subtropical region, surrounded by sandy or rocky seashore, with drastic change of land topology, also isolated from nearby continents or islands, putting these factors together, eventually evolved with its own unique, precious and resourceful animal, plant and microbial diversity. To Taiwan, particularly marine fungi are crucial microbial resource, merit to explore thoroughly. Nevertheless, study of these fungi on mangrove or intimate riches are sketchy, though not until 2002, a monograph by Hsieh et al. got published. Fortunately, a more extensive and intensive study of this field continued rather more recently by Drs Pang, Jheng and Gareth Jones. Their devotions eventually come up with the currently scheduled to be published monograph "Marine Mangrove Fungi of Taiwan (臺灣紅樹林海洋真菌誌)". In this monograph, 54 out of 69 species of mangrove fungi, including one new genus and new species, and 34 new records were illustrated with a dichotomous key to all the described taxa. The contents of this monograph are magnificent, which not only precisely and picturesquely illustrated all the taxa, but also provided resourceful and valuable references and comments, including each taxon's current study status, habitat, substrate preference, distribution, prevalence, identification traits and phylogenic relatedness, etc. Without double the great contribution by this monograph will greatly enrich the biodiversity of Mycobiota Taiwanica. Indeed, rather than a great honor and pleasure for me to write a few words on the occasion of its publicity, and also being able to recommend this valuable monograph to all the readers and relevant researchers.

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