

British Mycological Society Symposium Series

By presenting comprehensive, timely and truly international reviews of important topics in mycology, the Society's Symposium Series forms a multidisciplinary library of current research in fungal biology. *Fungi in Biogeochemical Cycles* is Volume 25 in the Symposium Series.

Fungi are of fundamental importance in the terrestrial environment. They have roles as decomposers, plant pathogens, symbionts and in elemental cycling. Fungi are often dominant, and in soil can comprise the largest pool of biomass (including other microorganisms and invertebrates). They also play a role in maintenance of soil structure due to their filamentous growth habit and exopolymer production. Despite their important roles in the biosphere, fungi are frequently neglected within broader environmental and microbiological spheres. Additionally, mycological interests can be somewhat fragmented among traditional subject boundaries.

This multi-disciplinary volume explores the roles and importance of fungi in the environment. Particular emphasis is given to major research advances made in recent years as a result of molecular and genomic approaches, and in cell imaging and biology. Drawing together microbiologists, mycologists and environmental scientists, this work is a unique account of modern environmental mycology and a pivotal contribution to the field.

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Cover illustration: zinc oxalate formed by *Beauveria caledonica* mycelium Fomina and Gadd, unpublished.

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