

## Mushroom Taxonomic Illustration Workshop at the Mushroom Research Centre

The Mushroom Research Foundation sponsored a Mushroom Taxonomic Illustration Workshop last May 27-31, 2019 at the Mushroom Research Center, Chiangmai, Thailand. This was attended by Ph.D. students from Mae Fah Luang University working on mushrooms as well as researchers from other institutions such as Dr. Montarop Sudhadham (Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Bangkok Thailand) and Dr. Resurreccion B. Sadaba (University of the Philippines Visayas, Miagao, Iloilo). The tutor was Dr. Cui Yang-Yang, a mycologist of Prof. Yang Zhuliang's group, Kunming Institute of Botany, CAS, China.

The main objective of the workshop was to train participants on the basic techniques in taxonomic illustration of mushrooms. The first day was a lecture on some important information and protocols on collecting mushrooms in the field, photography of mushrooms, identification of specimens through morphology and phylogeny, the importance of depositing specimens in reputable herbarium, and the value of taxonomic illustration for mushroom identification. The second day was devoted to field collection and descriptions of specimens. In addition, Dr. Yang demonstrated the correct techniques in taking publication-quality pictures of fresh mushrooms in the field. The remaining days of the workshop were focused on hands-on practice of taxonomic illustration wherein participants were taught and guided on what and how to draw key microscopic characters of mushrooms. Demonstration and practice on photo plate preparation was also included. The five day training was successfully implemented, that the participants enjoyed learning. It also promoted companionship among participants and opened linkages for future collaborations.



Dr. Yang giving a lecture on the basic techniques of mushroom identification and taxonomic illustration.



Participants also experienced mushroom collection in the field and were taught the techniques of mushroom photography.



The participants checked and familiarized the microscopic features of mushroom specimens needed for correct identification.



Everybody enjoyed and learned a lot from the successful workshop.