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BIOLOGY OF LICHENS AND BRYOPHYTES

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Growth and longevity of some tropical lichens in Thailand

Growths of about 300 lichen thalli have been monitored for nine years in various types of the tropical forests at Khao Yai National Park in Thailand. After seven years 49% of the observed thalli were completely dead and disappeared, of which 60% belong to the foliose and 36% of the crustose lichens. Among the existing lichens only 8% had intact whole thalli, contributed by 3% of foliose and 12% from crustose. The remaining thalli were either partially broken or regenerated into small lobes replaced the death ones. Regeneration of the crustose thalli was almost double of the foliose ones (47% and 24%). Growth rates were varied, and determined according to status of the thalli. (Poster: Ecology, Thursday in Merrill Hall)