

Microscopy applied to truffle growing

Truffle species identification, spore inoculum quality assessment Plantation mycorrhiza sampling and preparation for analysis Identification of mycorrhiza species commonly found in plantations

Morning

TRUFFLE SPECIES IDENTIFICATION, SPORE INOCULUM QUALITY ASSESSMENT

The use of microscopy for truffle plantation management Truffle identification, importance and objectives Macroscopic characters of truffles Microscopy sample preparation Microscopic identification of truffles: spores and asci Microscopic assessment of spore inoculum quality Preserving samples Bibliography and web links (including identification keys)

MYCORRHIZA MONITORING IN TRUFFLE PLANTATIONS

Root sampling, needed materials and statistical considerations Available field sampling methods, pros and cons Preparing the root samples for cleanin and extraction Preservation techniques Extraction of mycorrhizae from soil samples Cleaning

Atternoon

Microscopic identification of most common mycorrhizae present in European truffle plantations

Counting and interpreting the results

Assessment of the most adequate management techniques in view of the mycorrhiza species present

Bibliography and web links (including identification keys)

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Materials for the student

The student will be provided with the following materials:

Permanent slides (mounts) prepared by the student for future reference, in a slide carry box

Fresh samples of truffles for future reference (carefully sealed and labeled)

Dissection knife, microscopy tweezers and all lab equipment required for truffle and mycorrhiza microscopy

Basic set of chemicals used in truffle microscopy (carefully sealed and labeled and in small quantities)

Written notes in English, with identification pictures

Research papers and other important scientific documents

Cost and other information

Date: Sunday, the 25th of January, 2026

Duration: 7,5 hours

From 10:00 till 19:00 hours, including lunch and snack break.

A maximum of nine students are allowed per course and they all work individually with their own set of materials and microscopes.

The trainees will be supported by two teachers who are specialized on *Tuber* species microscopy in order to offer an individual attention.

The price of the course is 1.150 €

All students get an official invoice.

The course has to be paid in advance by bank transfer.

The price includes the answering of future questions in text via e-mail or WhatsApp about the training contents and for when the student starts identifying on his/her own (first year after the training).

Luz Cocina Romero (Agricultural Engineer, CEO at MicoLab and former forestry teacher)

and María Martín Santafé (PhD in Forest Engineering, researcher at the CITA of Aragón)

More info: +34 665 911 457 (WhatsApp) / info@micolab.com www.micolab.com

It also includes snacks and lunch at MicoLab's facilities.

Students will be allowed to take as many pictures as they want during the training.

