

Curriculum vitae

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Torda Varga
Address: Hungary, 3980, 4. Hajnal utca
Sátoraljaújhely
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Date of birth: 1st October 1988



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

University: 2013 - Biology MSc, Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
2008 - 2013 Biology BSc, Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
High school: 2003 - 2008 Reformed College of Sárospatak

LANGUAGES

English 2008 C1 certificate

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2013 - present Dr. Zoltán Bratek, Dr. Ádám Solti, Department of Plant Physiology and Molecular Plant Biology, Position: MSc student

2013 September Dr. Alexander Urban, Department Systematic and Evolutionary Botany – Mycology Research Group, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Vienna. Position: intern with Campus Hungary Scholarship, Short Term Study

2009 - 2010 Dr. Péter Ódor, Dr. Irén Siller, Őrs-Forest Project (Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, OTKA), Position: Bsc student

2008 - 2013 Dr. Zoltán Bratek, Department of Plant Physiology and Molecular Plant Biology, Position: BSc student

PUBLICATIONS

Varga T., Hegyessy G., Merényi Zs., Szegedi Zs., Bratek Z. 2014. Földalatti gombák Magyarország tájain I.: Tokaj-Zempléni-hegyvidék. Submitted to *Mikológiai Közlemények, Clusiana*.

Merényi Zs., Varga T., Geml J., Orczán Á. K., Chevalier G., Bratek Z. 2014. Phylogeny and phylogeography of *Tuber brumale* aggr. Submitted to *Mycorrhiza*.

Bratek Z., Merényi Zs., Varga T. 2013. Changes of hypogeous funga in the Carpathian-Pannonian region in the past centuries. *Acta Mycologica* **48**:33–39. doi: 10.5586/am.2013.005.

Siller I., Kutszegi G., Takács K., Varga T., Merényi Zs., Turcsányi G., Ódor P., Dima B. 2013.
Sixty- one macrofungi species new to Hungary in Órség National Park. *Mycosphere*
4:871–924. doi: 10.5943/mycosphere/4/5/3.

NUMBER OF CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS: 11

AWARDS

- 2013 Stephen W. Kuffler Research Scholarship
- 2011 XXX. National Conference of Scientific Students' Association (OTDK), Plant Ecology division, 3rd place.
- 2010 Scientific Students' Associations Conference (TDK) – ELTE, 3rd place.
- 2008 National Conference of Scientific Students' Association (TUDOK) 1st award.
- 2008 First Poster Competition for Researcher Students 1st award

MISCELLANEOUS

- 2013 - First Hungarian Truffling Association, board member
- 2008 - 2010 Hungarian Research Student Association, Chief of Natural Science Division
- 2007 - Hungarian Mycological Society, member

SCIENTIFIC RESUME

I have been interested in science and scientific life since high school. At the same time my admiration for the „world of fungi” arose and I became fascinated by mycology. During high school I conducted a research on the macrofungi community of a gallery forest and the ecological problems of non-indigenous mushrooms, which earned me several awards. Consequently there was no question for me to immediately join a research group (dr. Zoltán Bratek) after being admitted to university. Since then I have been an enthusiastic member of this group. We are interested in the phylogenetics and ecology of hypogeous fungi and the cultivation of truffles. The role of fungi in interspecific interactions has been a particularly intriguing question from the beginning of my scientific interest. This is why it was an honor to take part in the Órs-Forest project led by dr. Péter Ódor and dr. Irén Siller. In this two year long project I gained a great deal of methodological experiences in ecology.

In 2014, continuing the previous studies of the research group of dr. Zoltán Bratek we are planning on publishing a new species within the *Tuber brumale* aggr. (winter truffle), which is endemic in Carpathian-basin. I also would like to continue conducting the research of the *Tuber excavatum/fulgens* species complex cooperating with dr. Alexander Urban from the University of Vienna. In addition, we will finish the examination of *Hygrophorus penarius* and *H. penarioides* species with my MSc colleague and good friend, Erik Zajta. We are studying whether or not both of the aforementioned species occur in Hungary, using molecular and morphological methods. Regarding the ecology of hypogeous fungi, I will evaluate the data from recent studies on the natural habitats and orchards of *Tuber aestivum* (summer truffle).